

Subject: Dissemination of Guidelines

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Objective:

- I. To ensure Tuality Health Alliance (THA) makes known to THA Providers the Clinical Practice Guidelines that THA Medical Management utilizes when making medical necessity determinations.
- II. To ensure that THA provides more than one avenue of dissemination to our providers and or members of THA's Clinical Practice Guidelines.

Policy:

- I. The THA Utilization Management (UM) Committee is responsible for the review, adoption and approval of clinical practice guidelines.
- II. The process of review includes the development and dissemination of clinical practice guidelines adopted from nationally recognized sources with solicitation for comments from the THA Medical Director and UM Committee members.
- III. THA engages in an active process of choosing guidelines appropriate to its membership and uses these guidelines as the standard to measure performance. THA recognizes that the benefits of promoting guidelines for use include:
 - A. Decreasing variations in practice patterns
 - B. Increasing appropriateness of care
 - C. Improving health outcomes and health status.
- IV. THA utilizes the following guidelines in the practice of referral reviews and prior authorizations of procedures:
 - A. THA developed Clinical Practice Guidelines
 - B. Guidelines from the Health Services Commission
 - C. McKesson InterQual Guidelines
 - D. National Clearinghouse Guidelines
- V. The guidelines are located and available for dissemination in the THA Policy Manual, THA's internet site at www.tualityhealthalliance.org and available upon request.
 - A. The THA Medical Director discusses verbally with the referring provider at the time of review if the request does not meet criteria for approval.

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- B. In the event that a member requests a copy of the guidelines, the appropriate Nurse Case Manager will print off the guidelines and send to the member.
- C. If a provider prefers a printed copy of the guidelines, these can be printed off and faxed or mailed per the provider's request.
- D. Log completion of dissemination request (in Case Manager Folder) when guidelines are sent.

Formulated: June 5, 2007

THA Plan Director

THA Medical Director