## **How to Determine Your Insurance Benefits for Physical Therapy**

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- 1. Call the toll free # for customer service on your insurance card. Select the option that will allow you to speak with a customer service provider, not an automated system.
- 2. Ask the customer service provider to quote your physical therapy benefits in general. These are frequently termed rehabilitation benefits and can include occupational therapy, speech therapy, and sometimes massage therapy.
- 3. Make sure the customer service provider understands you are seeing a non-preferred provider/out-of-network provider

Member #:	ID#:		
Member Services Phone #:			
Date you Called:	Who you sp	Who you spoke to:	
Things You (the patient) Need	l to Know		
Do you have a deductible? If yes, how much is it? How much has already been met?			
What percentage of reimbursement do you have? (60%, 80%, 90%, are all common)			
Does the rate of reimbursement change because you're seeing a non-preferred provider? Yes / No			

• If yes, will the insurance company accept a written prescription from <u>any</u> MD/physician, or a specialist your PCP or family doctor referred you to? Yes / No.

Does your policy require pre-authorization or a referral on file for outpatient physical therapy services?

- If yes, do they have one on file? Yes / No
- Is there a \$ or visit limit per year? Yes / No
  - o If Yes, what is it?
- Do you require a special form to be filled out to submit a claim? Yes / No
  - o If yes, how do you obtain it for us to fill it out on your behalf?

Does your policy require a written prescription from your primary care physician? Yes / No

- What is the mailing address you should submit claims/reimbursement forms to?
- Is there an online website where you can submit the claim? Yes / No.
  - o If yes, what is the website address?

A **deductible** must be satisfied before the insurance company will pay for therapy treatment. Submit all bills to help reach the deductible amount.

If you have an office visit **co-pay** the insurance company will subtract that amount from the percentage they will pay. This will affect the amount of reimbursement you will receive.

The **reimbursement percentage** will be based on your insurance company's established "reasonable and customary/fair price" for the service codes rendered. This price will not necessarily match the charges billed; some may be less, some may be more.

If your policy requires a **prescription** or **referral** from your <u>PCP</u> you must obtain one to send in with the claim. This is usually not difficult to obtain if your PCP sent you to a specialist for help with your condition. If the referral from a MD or specialist is all you need, make sure to have a copy to include with your claim. <u>Each time</u> you receive an <u>updated referral</u> you'll need to include it with the claim.

If your policy requires **pre-authorization** or a **referral on file** and the insurance company doesn't have one listed yet, you will need to <u>call the referral coordinator at your PCP's office</u>. Ask them to file a referral for your physical therapy treatment that is dated to cover your first physical therapy visit. Be aware that referrals and pre-authorizations have an expiration date and some set a visit limit. If you are approaching the expiration date or visit limit you'll need the referral coordinator to submit a request for more treatment.

This worksheet was created to assist you in obtaining reimbursement for Physical Therapy services and is not a guarantee of reimbursement to you.