

# Medicaid Precertification is here..... This is a must read



LEONARD J. CHABERT MEDICAL CENTER

## What's up Doc? case management news

**Beginning AUGUST 30, 2010** Medicaid will require all patients that are admitted to the hospital be pre-certified. This has been the mandated practice in the private sector since 1994.

**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?** Medicaid will assign a length of stay (LOS) based on the admit diagnosis using the Thomson-Reuters scale for the Southern Region.

**HOW DOES IT WORK?** Case Management will request additional days if necessary, by submitting information about what services are being provided to the patient. Medicaid

will use **INTERQUAL CRITERIA** to determine if additional days will be allocated or denied.

**WHAT IF MEDICAID DOES NOT ALLOW ADDITIONAL DAYS?** The case manager will submit a reconsideration or a re-submittal. At this time an MD to MD conference may be necessary to get additional days approved. The MD conferences will be coordinated by case management and the attending physician.

**DO THESE RULES APPLY TO THE PATIENT IN OBSERVATION?** Along with the new ruling the OBSERVATION rules have changed as well. Patients will be allowed no more than "30"

hours in OP status. This includes OBS time and OP time prior to admission. No longer will the Medicaid patient convert to an inpatient based on the 24 hour rule. This means that if the patient does not meet **INTERQUAL CRITERIA** for admission the patient cannot be admitted. After 30 hours of outpatient status Medicaid will no longer pay (which begins at point of entry into the hospital).

Out patient testing that is typically done in the observation level of care will need to be scheduled and performed in the outpatient setting. This applies to tests like DSE's, endoscopy procedures, and other testing if the patients condition is hemodynamically and clinically stable.

### Let Case Management help!

Please refer to the **CASE MANAGEMENT** notes that are located in the progress note section of the chart.

Your case manager will assist you and inform you if your patient is or is not meeting InterQual Criteria for admission. She will also keep you informed of how long your patient has been in Observation. The clock will be ticking!



**WHEN DO THE "30" HOURS BEGIN?** The clock starts when the patient



checks in, either to the ER or in the clinic setting.

**EXAMPLE:** The patient comes to the ER with chest pain at 8:00a.m. The M.D. writes orders to place in Observation at 6:00p.m. The 30 hours started at 8:00a.m. when the patient signed into the facility, which means there are only 20 hours remaining to rule out an MI or perform relevant testing based on Medicaid's time line.

**Special points of interest:**

*If the hospital is denied by Medicaid..... so are the services provided by the physician!*

Questions? Contact Debbie Picou, RN 873-1833

## Inside Story Headline

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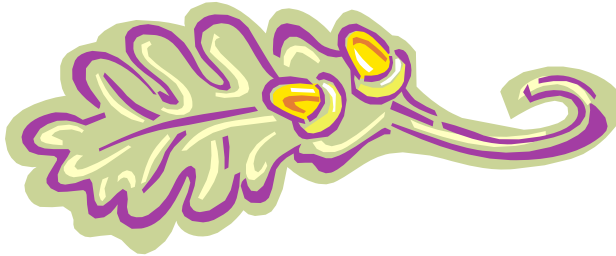
This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find “filler” articles by accessing the World



Caption describing picture or graphic.

publication. So, when you're finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.

Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a simple way to convert your newsletter to a Web

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The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distributed internally,

you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing.

Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or an editorial.

You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

*“To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here.”*

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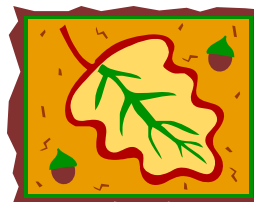
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Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or enhances the message you're trying to convey. Avoid selecting images that appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes thousands of clip art images from which you can choose and import into your newsletter. There are also several tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols.

Once you have chosen an image, place it close to the article. Be sure to place the



Caption describing picture or graphic.

caption of the image near the image.

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*Caption describing picture or graphic.*

# Organization

## LEONARD J. CHABERT MEDICAL CENTER

Primary Business Address  
Your Address Line 2  
Your Address Line 3  
Your Address Line 4

Phone: 555-555-5555  
Fax: 555-555-5555  
E-mail: someone@example.com

***Your business tag line here.***

**We're on the Web!**  
**example.microsoft.com**

*This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U.S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.*

*It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.*

## Back Page Story Headline

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This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance.

A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names and titles of managers in your organization is a good way to give your newsletter a personal touch. If your organization is small, you may want to list the names of all employees.

If you have any prices of standard products or services, you can include a listing of those here. You may want to refer your readers to

any other forms of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind readers to mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast meeting for vendors every third Tuesday of the

month, or a biannual charity auction.

If space is available, this is a good place to insert a clip art image or some other graphic.



*Caption describing picture or graphic.*