California

# **PROVIDER***Update*

REGULATORY

JANUARY 29, 2018

UPDATE 18-080

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## Time Frames to Reply to Request for Records for Independent Medical Reviews

Health Net Community Solutions, Inc. (Health Net) is committed to providing timely independent medical reviews (IMRs) that meet regulatory and contractual requirements. This is to ensure Cal MediConnect Plan (Medicare-Medicaid Plan) members have access to medically necessary services and treatments.

The Knox Keene Act contains strict requirements to facilitate the timely completion of IMRs which are administered by the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) through a designated IMR organization (IMRO). Health Net requires the assistance of participating physician groups (PPGs), direct network physicians and hospitals in obtaining and delivering all requested medical records to Health Net in a timely manner.

When IMRO requests additional information or documentation, Health Net sends the participating provider a Provider Information Request fax (Request Fax) indicating the information and/or documentation needed. Providers must respond as indicated on the Request Fax to allow Health Net to respond to the IMR reviewer within the following mandatory time frames as outlined in the Request Fax:

- Within 24 hours for an expedited IMR.
- Within three business days for a standard IMR.

If for any reason it appears that the requested information or documentation cannot be produced in time to meet the above deadlines, contact the person at Health Net who sent the Request Fax. Health Net is required to notify the DMHC if Health Net is experiencing difficulty obtaining medical records from its participating providers.

Providers who fail to respond within the indicated time frames may violate Health and Safety Code, section 1374.31(a), rules 1300.74.30(j) and 1300.74.30(k), and the *Provider Participation Agreement (PPA)*. Failure to provide timely records can result in fines and penalties assessed against Health Net, PPGs and participating providers.

If you have questions regarding the information contained in this update, contact the Health Net Provider Services Center by email at provider\_services@healthnet.com within 60 days, through the Health Net provider website at provider.healthnet.com, or by telephone as listed in the right-hand column.

### **Online News for Providers**

Access informative articles today by logging in to provider.healthnet.com. Select the rotating graphic to read or print articles of interest. Health Net posts new articles each week that cover a variety of topics, such as administrative procedure reminders, quality improvement tips, upcoming teleconferences, and health care initiatives. Health Net®

#### THIS UPDATE APPLIES TO CAL MEDICONNECT PROVIDERS:

Physicians

- Participating Physician Groups
- Hospitals
- $^{\circ}$  Ancillary Providers

#### **PROVIDER SERVICES**

provider\_services@healthnet.com Los Angeles County – 1-855-464-3571 San Diego County – 1-855-464-3572

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#### PROVIDER COMMUNICATIONS provider.communications@ healthnet.com fax 1-800-937-6086

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