

Need to Know Important Updates

MaineHealth ACO Contributes to New Pediatric Referral Guidelines

Thanks to a generous grant from Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, the MaineHealth ACO has completed work with Maine Medical Partners to develop more than 30 new condition- and disease-specific guidelines to help pediatricians and family practitioners decide when to refer patients to specialists. The ACO contributed staff to managing the project and helped conduct practice outreach, facilitate video production, and organize meetings between specialists and primary care.

The new referral guidelines are meant to support stronger collaboration, communication and patient co-management between primary care and specialist providers. Referral topic areas include endocrinology, genetics, gastroenterology, cancer, infectious disease, nephrology, neurology, surgery and developmental/behavioral health. Guidelines are presented in a single-page, color-coded format that categorizes symptoms as high, moderate or low risk. A number of guidelines also include in-depth discussion videos.

The new guidelines are now available on the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital and Maine Medical Center websites and can be accessed by clicking [here](#) and scrolling down to the "Pediatric Outpatient" section.

Remember to Revalidate Medicare-Enrolled Providers

The Affordable Care Act established a requirement for all enrolled ACO providers to revalidate their Medicare enrollment on a regular basis. To streamline the revalidation process and reduce the ACO providers' burden, CMS has implemented several revalidation processing improvements.

The most efficient way for a provider to submit revalidation information is by using the Internet-based [Provider Enrollment Chain and Ownership System \(PECOS\)](#) on the CMS website. PECOS allows you to review information currently on file, update, and submit a revalidation via the Internet. It is important for providers to keep all of their contact information in PECOS up-to-date so the Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) can contact them as needed.

A listing of all currently enrolled providers is available by using the [Medicare Revalidation List](#). You can search for a provider by last name, first name, organization name, or by National Provider Identifier (NPI), or download a list of revalidation due dates. Those on the list due for revalidation will display a revalidation due date, all other providers not up for revalidation will display a "TBD" (to be determined) in the due date field. The revalidation due date will be posted up to six months in advance of the revalidation due date to provide sufficient notice and time for the ACO provider to comply. The revalidation due date list is refreshed once every two months on or around the first of the month and two months of due dates are appended at that time.

Please remember to remove providers that are no longer providing services under your Participant TIN.

For more information on ACO provider revalidation, please visit the [CMS Revalidation webpage](#) or contact your MAC.