



Michigan Physical Therapy Association, 1055 N. Fairfax St, Suite 205, Alexandria VA 22314

June 23, 2016

Dear Dr. Parker, Mr. Wagner, and Ms. Ward-

The Michigan Physical Therapy Association (MPTA) is writing to express grave concern and the strongest objection to the proposed utilization management program by eviCore.

Based on our discussion today, the stated primary concern to be addressed by the proposed program is to identify those clinics that are Category C, who are already identified under the current program. It is not clear how health care costs, which are ultimately born by the consumer, will be reduced with the proposed program. Program costs to BCBSM and costs to providers appear to us to far exceed any cost savings or other benefits beyond those already obtained in the current program.

While we appreciate eviCore's stated commitment to adapt and improve the program over time, they specifically have identified other successful, more efficient methods in other states. We therefore cannot understand why the initial proposed program in Michigan is not reflecting their own experiences, nor is it reflective of modern and progressive payment models.

The MPTA has always supported efforts to closely manage or eliminate the small percentage of clinics that engage in wasteful and abusive clinical and billing practices. However, we cannot support nor encourage our members to participate in a program that punishes the vast majority of clinicians who practice well-within established professional practice standards and one which detracts from providing quality care to your members.

The MPTA is urgently requesting a meeting with BCBSM leadership prior to BCBSM committing to use of this program for its commercial PPO products. It is critical that we provide input into shaping more appropriate utilization management review procedures that effectively meet BCBSM's needs and that reflect the realities of clinical practice.

Sincerely,

Martin J. Systema, PT, OMPT, FAAOMPT, CIMT
Director for Reimbursement
Michigan Physical Therapy Association

Susan Ann Talley, PT, DPT, PhD(c)
President
Michigan Physical Therapy Association