

The Role of AIMM

Role of AIMM with your Medical Plan

We recently explained to you, that AIMM provides information, education, resources, and support to members of the Health Plan and the medical professionals who provide care to them. AIMM ensures that medical care meets the requirements of “medically necessary and appropriate” and that patients are getting the highest quality health care available.

How are the standards for high quality medical treatment determined?

When working with a patient, the Professional RNs at AIMM compare the proposed treatment plan to a nationally recognized, evidence-based, clinical care guideline called the Milliman Care Guidelines. These guidelines are compiled and used by physicians, researchers and clinicians.

They provide detailed descriptions of:

- The particular circumstances in which a proposed treatment would be appropriate.
- What alternative treatment options should be considered before making a final treatment decision.
- What the optimum course of recovery would be; and in what circumstances you would expect a patient’s recovery to require additional care.

These guidelines are developed by a team of hundreds of medical professionals who review all of the scientific studies published. They use the information to define what is proven to work as well as what treatments are shown to have no benefit.

Why is following the Care Guidelines important when I see a doctor?

By referencing the Care Guidelines, AIMM is equipped to:

- Assist clinicians in making informed decisions in many health care settings including hospital, acute and sub-acute medical and rehabilitation, skilled nursing facilities, home healthcare, and ambulatory facilities. When the continuum of care is used, more intensive levels of care are reserved for patients who cannot be managed safely and effectively at lower levels.
- Encourage patient education and patient choice. Informed patients can cooperate with caregivers to achieve better outcomes and can make better choices about their health care.

How does claim management help me financially?

Of course, after assuring the highest quality healthcare is received, a large part of managing the health care plan is cost containment since this has a direct impact on premiums paid by you and by the Health Plan. As you know, our health care plan, like all others, has a lifetime maximum benefit. Managing health care helps patients to ensure that the money being spent is going towards care that has the highest likelihood of success and is not being spent on treatments that science has shown to have a low likelihood of success. This will help each patient to get the best care possible for their current health problem. This will also assist patients to recover faster and with fewer complications.

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What is AIMM's role in determining what the Health Plan will pay for?

AIMM

- DOES provide information about all of the treatment options that are shown to be effective at treating particular conditions.
- DOES help to identify the use of treatments that are not scientifically proven to be of benefit to a particular condition.
- DOES NOT make medical treatment decisions, or give advice on what treatment should or should not be used.
- DOES NOT make payment decisions. However, many different treatments under the health plan do require pre-certification. During pre-certification, AIMM compares the proposed treatment to the care guidelines and determines whether the proposal meets the standard of “medically necessary and appropriate” or not.

Ultimately, patients and their health care providers are free to choose what ever treatments they want, even when those treatments are not consistent with the Care Guidelines. However, when a treatment does not meet the criteria as medically necessary and appropriate, it will not be paid for by the health plan and the patient will need to either pay for the treatment or utilize other sources of payment besides the health plan.

In some instances a treatment is not a covered benefit of the Health Plan, but is medically necessary & appropriate. In those instances, the RNs of AIMM can assist the patient in determining if there are any alternate ways for the patient to receive the care. Often community resources can be identified, or alternate payment methods can be utilized.

The goal of the services provided through AIMM is to ensure that all of the scientific information available on a particular condition is presented so the patient and treatment provider will choose a treatment option that is ideally suited to the individual's circumstances and which is scientifically shown to have a high likelihood of success.

Call 866-531-6306

Monday through Friday 9am to 5pm Eastern Time