1199SEIU Benefit Funds

MEDICAL ONCOLOGY PROGRAM UPDATE

Beginning on October 1, 2021, the 1199SEIU Benefit Funds Medical Oncology Prior Authorization Program will make enhancements to the oncology-based primary treatment regimen requests with the Biosimilar First Program. Providers will be directed to try the biosimilars of trastuzumab, bevacizumab and rituximab in the eviCore medical oncology clinical pathway. A physician who is unwilling or unable to select a biosimilar of Herceptin, Avastin or Rituxan in the clinical pathway should request a P2P with a medical director at eviCore in the medical oncology program. The use of at least one preferred product will be required before a non-preferred product is approved, while both preferred and non-preferred products will still require prior authorization. Providers will make selections from the product lists and complete a clinical questionnaire to confirm medical necessity. Authorizations are only valid for the specific drug selected and are not interchangeable with other biosimilars, or with other preferred or non-preferred formulations.

1. ***What do you need to know?***
   - **a.** *There have been no changes to the drug list.*
   - **b.** *Current process*
     - *There is no preference for drugs used as part of a cancer treatment since April 16, 2016.*
     - *Authorizations are obtained through www.eviCore.com or by calling eviCore at (888) 910-1199.*
   - **c.** *New process*
     - *Authorizations will still be obtained through www.eviCore.com or by calling eviCore at (888) 910-1199.*
     - *If a drug regimen contains trastuzumab, bevacizumab and/or rituximab, there will be additional questions to encourage use of the preferred first-line biosimilar products within those classes. It is important to note that these authorizations are only valid for the specific drug selected and are not interchangeable with other biosimilar products, as the authorizations are code-specific.*
     - *Specific policies for each drug will be posted that detail the biosimilar as the preferred first-line products that will be reviewed and updated annually or on an ad hoc basis as the result of new drug approvals.*
     - *An authorization or denial may be issued based on alignment with clinical criteria.*
     - *Detailed process descriptions can be found at https://www.evicore.com/resources/healthplan/1199seiu-funds.*
     - *For more information, please email clientservices@evicore.com.*

2. ***Why are we making these changes?***
   - **a.** *Rigorous tests and analyses confirm that biosimilar products are FDA-approved reference biologic products; biosimilar products mimic the reference products in structure and function.*
   - **b.** *Biosimilars reduce medical expenditures without compromising treatment standards.*