



February 8, 2018

Milwaukee City-County Heroin, Opioid, and Cocaine Task Force
Attn: Alderman Michael J. Murphy, Chair
200 E. Wells St. Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderman Murphy,

UnitedHealthcare (UHC) would like to thank you for your letter dated January 29, 2018, regarding questions raised by the Milwaukee City-County Heroin, Opioid and Cocaine Task Force (CCHOCTF).

UHC applauds CCHOCTF's efforts to address the needs of those suffering from substance use disorders. Similarly, UHC is dedicated to developing data-driven approaches to ensure our members receive timely, affordable and quality substance use disorder services. In this endeavor, UHC understands the importance of maintaining open lines of communication, working with providers, and continued education for our members.

UHC acknowledges there was confusion in early 2017 regarding Medicaid benefit coverage for substance use disorder services. UHC worked quickly with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services to clarify that we did not change our Medicaid benefit structure for the treatment of any substance use disorder. On May 26, 2017, UHC sent a communication to Wisconsin providers specifically confirming that Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) services are covered for all UHC Medicaid members, including those suffering from opioid use disorder.

On January 1, 2018, UHC implemented a revised national Reimbursement Policy that defines the parameters for urine drug test (UDT) coverage for both urine drug screen (presumptive) tests and drug confirmatory (definitive) tests. UHC relied on input from both internal and external subject matter experts. UHC based the allowances on national data reflecting the average drug tests per calendar year per member. The policy does not require prior authorization for UDT regardless of network participation.

In December 2017, UHC sent out over 86,000 member and over 300 provider-group notification letters explaining these revisions.

Nationally, including Wisconsin, the UDT policy:

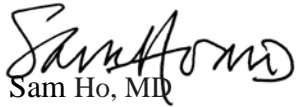
- Does not limit to only 18 urine drug tests annually
- Allows annual coverage for 36 urine drug tests (18 presumptive, 18 definitive)
- Does not require any prior authorization
- Does not apply to any facility-based care; such as IOP
- Only applies to outpatient services

Specially, for UHC members in Wisconsin, the UDT policy:

- Does not apply to Medicaid members
- Only applies to Commercial Plan members

UHC appreciates the opportunity to address the concerns raised by the CCHOCTF. We are available to address any further questions regarding our UDT policy as it pertains to our Wisconsin membership.

Sincerely,



Sam Ho, MD

Executive Vice President
Chief Medical Officer
UnitedHealthcare

Cc: Steve Nelson

Executive Vice President
Chief Executive Officer
UnitedHealthcare