

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REMINDER

BlueChoice HealthPlan regularly receives phone calls from medical offices requesting prior authorization for services that **DO NOT** require prior authorization in order to be covered. These unnecessary calls waste staff time and increase your administrative costs.

In an effort to save your office the time and expense associated with these unnecessary calls, we are sending the following list of commonly requested services that **DO NOT** require prior authorization and asking that you review them with your staff:

- All facility-based ultrasounds.
- All office-based ultrasounds (except thyroid). An office-based thyroid ultrasound requires prior authorization **EXCEPT** when performed by a surgeon or endocrinologist.
- Bone density scans.
- Esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD) and colonoscopy performed in a facility or ambulatory surgical center. (These procedures **DO** require prior authorization if they are to be performed in-office.)
- Physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and chiropractic services. (These services may not be covered for every patient. The limitations and exclusions of each patient's policy still apply.)

We hope that this review of services that **DO NOT** require prior authorization will be helpful in reducing the number of calls your office has to make. For more information, call (800) 327-3183 and speak to the Health Network Services representative for your area.