Prior Authorization Briefing

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Intersection of Clinical and Administrative Data Task Force Meeting

Who is AHIP?

AHIP is the national association whose members provide coverage for health care and related services to millions of Americans every day

Our Mission
AHIP and our members create and accelerate positive change and innovation across the health care system for consumers through market-based solutions and public-private partnerships that advance affordability, value, access and well-being.

1 — Shape the Policy Agenda

2 — Support & Enable Member Plans

3 — Lead Ecosystem Collaboration

State & Federal Policy and Advocacy

Public Affairs, Media and Grassroots

Original Research

Clinical Policy

Legal Advocacy

Professional Education and Training

Industry Conferences

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AHIP Multi-Pronged Strategy on Prior Authorization

- Identifying Areas of Common Interests and Opportunity for Improvements with Providers – Consensus Statement

- AHIP [Demonstration Project](#) on Prior Authorization Automation – Fast Path

- AHIP Prior Authorization Landscape [Survey](#)

- Data-Driven Collaboration to Promote Evidence-Based Care

- Communications, Messaging, and Advocacy
    - Federal and State Advocacy
    - Message Guide
    - Resources and Talking Points
    - Op-Ed
    - Statement of Commitment

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Automating Prior Auth: Fast *Path* Project

New *Fast PATH* Initiative Aims to Improve Prior Authorization for Patients and Doctors

AHIP and several prominent health insurance providers – covering over 60 million lives – are launching a new program to automate and speed prior authorization review and approval

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WASHINGTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Patients deserve access to the safest, most effective and highest-quality care. To achieve that goal, health insurance providers may use prior authorization – a systematic approach based on clinical evidence and data that ensures patients receive safe and effective treatments. Today, America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP), along with several of our member insurance providers, is launching the *Fast Prior Authorization Technology Highway (Fast PATH)* initiative to improve the prior authorization process.

"When patients do better, we all do better. Patients should receive the right treatments and medications at the right time in the most effective and efficient way"

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Electronic prior authorization is becoming more available to physicians but most still use manual processes to request prior authorizations, despite the common availability of online submission portals – with 46% of requests submitted by fax and 60% requiring a telephone call. *Fast PATH* aims to employ technology in the physician's office to improve connections between insurance providers, doctors' offices, and other care settings. This new initiative will rely upon the proven automated technologies of both Availity and Surescripts to speed prior authorization requests, responses, and information exchange.

Participating Insurance Providers Include Leading Companies Covering Tens of Millions of Americans

Participating in components of *Fast PATH* include a diverse set of leading health insurance providers that collectively cover over 60 million Americans: Anthem, Blue Shield of California, Cambia's affiliated health plans, Cigna, Florida Blue, and WellCare.

"When patients do better, we all do better. Patients should receive the right treatments and medications at the right time in the most effective and efficient way," said Matt Eyles, President and CEO of AHIP. "That's why we're committed to reducing unnecessary burden, increasing patient satisfaction and improving quality and outcomes."

Fast PATH will address two common but critical prior authorization applications – one focused on prescription medications, and the other on medical and surgical procedures. **Here is how they will work:**

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FierceHealthcare

Insurers Aim to Get Physicians to Incorporate Electronic Processes for Prior Authorization

The goal is to offer a voluntary approach that is scalable and can be highly integrated with existing electronic health records systems…The portal allows for easier communication and faster approvals, thus speeding the delivery of quality care for patients.

EHR INTELLIGENCE
xtelligent HEALTHCARE MEDIA

AHIP Program Points to Health IT, EHRs for Prior Authorization

The Fast PATH Program touts electronic prior authorization using health IT and EHRs as a key solution for utilization management.
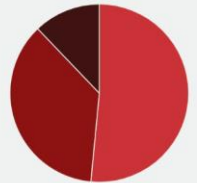
HealthData Management

AHIP, insurers to test IT to speed prior authorization process

Prior authorization is still mainly manual

- Manual processes, 52%
- Partially electronic, 36%
- Fully electronic, 12%

Source: MGMA

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RTI Evaluation of PA Project – Research Questions

- **RQ1: How does automating aspects of prior auth process change the experience and administration burden on health care providers?**
    - The % of Pas that are approved
    - The volume of PA transactions
    - The volume of PA-related phone calls and faxes
    - The transparency of the PA-related information and process
    - How often providers change from prescribing a medication that requires PA to one that does not

- **RQ2: How does automating aspects of the prior auth process change the patient experience?**
    - The time it takes between submitting PA request to receiving decision
    - Perceived timeliness to recommended treatment
    - How often do providers change from prescribing a medication that is more expensive to one that is less expensive for the patient
    - How often do patients who have a prescription for the first time fill their prescription?

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Thank You

Questions?

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