

Affected Programs: BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid

To: Advanced Practice Nurse Prescribers, Community Support Programs, Dispensing Physicians, Pharmacies, Physician Clinics, Physicians

Clozapine and Clozapine Management Services Covered Under the BadgerCare Plus Core Plan for Childless Adults

The BadgerCare Plus Core Plan for Childless Adults will be implemented on January 1, 2009, as part of Wisconsin's comprehensive health care reform. This *ForwardHealth Update* describes the coverage and policies for clozapine and clozapine management under the Core Plan.

As a result of the recent downturn in the national economy, the expansion of the Core Plan will be implemented in phases. Phase I, which includes individuals currently enrolled in Milwaukee County's General Assistance Medical Program (GAMP) and other counties' general assistance medical programs, will begin on January 1, 2009. The timeframe for adding new phases will be determined as the Department of Health Services moves forward.

Refer to the December 2008 *Update* (2008-199), titled "Introducing the BadgerCare Plus Core Plan for Childless Adults," for general information about covered and noncovered services, reimbursement, copayment, and enrollment.

BadgerCare Plus Core Plan Overview

The BadgerCare Plus Core Plan for Childless Adults covers basic health care services including primary and preventive care, generic drugs, and a limited number of brand name prescription drugs.

In Milwaukee County, members will receive benefits under the Core Plan on a fee-for-service basis from January 1, 2009, through March 31, 2009. Effective April 1, 2009, Core Plan members in Milwaukee County will be enrolled in the state-contracted HMOs that serve Wisconsin's Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus population. Members will be sent enrollment choice materials beginning in January 2009 and will enroll through Automated Health Systems, Inc., the State's enrollment broker, as they currently do with the BadgerCare Plus population.

Individuals that are converting to the Core Plan from non-Milwaukee County general assistance programs will receive their Core Plan benefits on a fee-for-service basis.

All members enrolled in the Core Plan will receive a ForwardHealth identification card.

Clozapine Drug Coverage Under the Core Plan

The Core Plan covers the generic drug clozapine. Core Plan members are automatically enrolled in the Badger Rx Gold Plan, a prescription drug plan for Wisconsin residents. Coverage for brand name drugs may be available through this plan. For more information about

the Badger Rx Gold Plan, refer to the Badger Rx Gold Web site at www.badgerrxgold.com/.

Pharmacy services are reimbursed as fee-for-service.

Copayment for generic clozapine under the Core Plan is \$5.00 per prescription with a monthly drug copayment limit of \$20.00. Under the Core Plan, a provider has the right to deny services if the member fails to make his or her copayment.

Definition of Clozapine Management Services

Clozapine management is a specialized care management service that may be required to ensure the safety of members who are receiving clozapine. Clozapine management services refer to the monitoring of a member's drug intake, testing, and mental health; the drug itself is reimbursed separately.

For a complete description of clozapine management services, refer to previously published service-specific *Updates*.

Clozapine Management Services Coverage Under the Core Plan for Childless Adults

Policies and procedures for clozapine management services are the same as the Standard Plan.

The white blood cell (WBC) count and Absolute Neutrophil Count (ANC) testing are separately reimbursable services that require separate orders from the prescriber. Providers are reminded that the required WBC count and ANC testing should be reduced to once every four weeks for members who have received clozapine for a full year with stable and medically appropriate WBC counts and ANCs. This frequency of testing is in accordance with the most recent Food and Drug Administration policy regarding clozapine. When appropriate and medically necessary, testing frequency may be increased.

Clozapine management services require an order from a physician.

Clozapine management services do not require copayments or prior authorization.

Community Support Program (CSP) services are not covered for members enrolled in the Core Plan, but CSP providers can still provide clozapine management services. The Core Plan will reimburse CSP providers for these services. Community Support Program providers should refer to the July 2006 *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Update* (2006-54), titled "Community Support Program Services," for more information about policies and procedures for clozapine management services.

Reimbursement

Providers will be reimbursed for clozapine and clozapine management services provided to members enrolled in the Core Plan at the current Wisconsin Medicaid rate of reimbursement for covered services.

Enrollment Verification

It is imperative that providers verify a member's enrollment to determine if the member is covered and in which plan the member is enrolled. Providers are reminded to *always* verify a member's enrollment *before* providing services, both to determine that the individual is enrolled for the current date and to discover any limitations to the member's coverage. Providers have several options to obtain enrollment information through Wisconsin's Enrollment Verification System and should refer to the Online Handbook for more information. Refer to the December 2008 *Update* (2008-200), titled "Member Enrollment Verification for BadgerCare Plus Core Plan for Childless Adults," for more information.

For More Information

For more information or questions regarding the Core Plan, providers may call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627.

The *ForwardHealth Update* is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers.

Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, SeniorCare, and Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program are administered by the Division of Health Care Access and Accountability, Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). The Wisconsin Well Woman Program is administered by the Division of Public Health, Wisconsin DHS.

For questions, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or visit our Web site at www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/.

P-1250