

Provider Update

January 2017

SPECIAL EDITION

NOTICE OF WEEKEND AUTHORIZATION COVERAGE

Applicable Entity: PA Medicare Assured

In keeping with our commitment of promoting continuous quality improvement for services provided to Gateway Health Medicare Assured providers in Pennsylvania, Gateway Health Medicare Assured has expanded its arrangement with naviHealth to begin providing weekend authorization coverage for emergency situations. An example of this situation would be when a patient is in the emergency room (ER) and could go directly to a naviHealth placed facility, and is not a member that is a planned transition. naviHealth places members in facilities such as a skilled nursing facility (SNF), long term acute care (LTAC), or inpatient rehabilitation facility (IRF) setting. naviHealth will continue to follow the current process for all non-emergent situations where the authorization is called in on the next business day for review.

Gateway Health Medicare Assured will closely monitor this expanded agreement for service to assure that we are continuing to provide the most value for our providers and members.

- **Why is Gateway Health Medicare Assured adding weekend coverage?**
Gateway Health Medicare Assured is responding to the challenges identified by our participating hospital providers with placing members on the weekends.
- **What is included in the weekend authorization coverage?**
The current process of requesting authorization on the next business day would continue to be utilized for all planned transfers. naviHealth will manage emergent inpatient admission authorizations to skilled nursing facility (SNF), long term acute care (LTAC), or inpatient rehabilitation facility (IRF) settings for Gateway Health Medicare Assured. The weekend authorization coverage does not include pre-planned transfers to skilled facilities.
- **What is the implementation date for this weekend coverage?**
The first date of weekend authorization coverage for Gateway Health Medicare Assured will be February 4, 2017.
- **Where can I find naviHealth's information?**
naviHealth can be reached at 1-855-692-6140. Additional information regarding naviHealth authorizations can be found in the Provider manual on the website at www.GatewayHealthPlan.com.