

Medical Assurance Company of Mississippi

RISK MANAGER — ALERT —

Updates from Risk Management Department

June 2016

Mississippi Board of Medical Licensure Announces Change in the Mileage Restriction between APRN and Physician Collaborator

As the practice of medicine continues to change, the MACM Risk Management Department realizes the use of APRNs in a medical practice is becoming more and more common. From the questions we receive and the advice we give each day, we want to keep our insureds as educated as possible when it comes to using extended providers. Following is the most recent information from the Mississippi Board of Medical Licensure (MSBML).

Effective June 4, 2016, the MSBML has increased the mileage limit between the collaborative/consultative physician's primary office and the clinic where patients are treated by an APRN from 15 miles to 75 miles. The process for MSBML approval of a free standing clinic remains the same. A free standing clinic is defined as a clinic or other facility where patients are treated by an APRN that is more than 75 miles away from the primary office of the collaborative/consultative physician.

To view the amended rule (effective June 4, 2016), please see:

[APRN Collaboration Rule Effective June 4, 2016](#)

While the MSBML does not limit the number of APRNs with which a physician can collaborate, MACM urges its insureds to collaborate only with a reasonable number of APRNs in order to fulfill the quality assurance/quality improvement program mandated by the MSBML.

The quality assurance/quality improvement program consists of:

Monthly Chart Review

- Review by collaborative physician of a random sample of charts that represent 10 percent or 20 charts, whichever is less, of patients seen by the APRN every month.
- Charts should represent the variety of patient types seen by the APRN.
- Patients that the APRN and collaborating physician have consulted on during the month will count as one chart review.

Documentation

- The APRN must maintain a log of charts reviewed, including patient identifiers, reviewers' names, and dates of review.

Quarterly Meeting

- APRNs must meet face-to-face with their collaborating physician quarterly for quality assurance purposes. This meeting should be documented.

Specialty Limitations

- Physicians should only collaborate with APRNs that practice in their specialty. For example, an adult Internal Medicine physician should not collaborate with an APRN that sees pediatric patients.

If you have any questions regarding collaborating with APRNs, please contact the MACM Risk Management Department at (800) 325-4172.

If you are initiating a collaboration agreement with an APRN, notify the MACM Underwriting Department at (800) 325-4172.

Telemedicine – No News to Update for Now!

No changes have been made to the telemedicine rules either by the Mississippi Board of Medical Licensure or as a result of the 2016 legislative session.

If you are considering starting a telemedicine service, please note that **you do not automatically have coverage**. Contact the MACM Underwriting Department for coverage to be considered. The MACM Risk Management Department is also available to assist in setting up and reviewing your telemedicine service.

To view the current telemedicine rules from the MSBML, please see:

[Telemedicine MSMBL](#)

The practice of medicine is not what it used to be. In these trying times in healthcare, your Risk Management staff is here to help you. We will stay up-to-date on the issues affecting our insureds. As always, if there is any way that we in Risk Management can assist you, do not hesitate to let us know.

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Disclaimer: Nothing contained herein is to be interpreted as legal advice. Likewise, nothing contained herein is intended to establish the standard of care for physicians practicing in Mississippi.

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