
Reminder: Help Optimize Care Coordination by Asking your Patients to Complete a HIPAA Authorization Form

Summary: Information sharing for care coordination may require a valid HIPAA Authorization form when certain conditions or sensitive disease states are present. The absence of a valid HIPAA Authorization form may prevent the health plan and other care team members from providing the most efficient care coordination to your patients. **It is important for your patients to understand and complete a HIPAA Authorization form.** If your practice does not have a version of this form already in use, the health plan can provide one by request.

Background:

The HIPAA Privacy Rule allows Covered Entities to Access, Use, or Disclose patient Protected Health Information (“PHI”) for the purposes of Payment, Treatment, and Health Care Operations. However, it has become common practice for conditions such as mental health, HIV/AIDS, substance abuse, sexually transmitted diseases, and genetic conditions, to necessitate the affirmative permission of a patient – by means of a HIPAA Authorization form – before diagnostic records and/or other information can be shared with providers and other partners on the patient’s care team.

Absence of a valid HIPAA Authorization form may prevent the health plan and other care team members from providing the most efficient care coordination to your patients who are also Prestige Health Choice members. It is important for your patients to understand and complete a HIPAA Authorization form to optimize information sharing for care coordination purposes.

Action Needed:

Please tell your patients about the importance of completing a HIPAA Authorization form to optimize care coordination and ask your patients to complete the HIPAA Authorization form while in your office. If your practice does not have a version of this form already in use, Prestige Health Choice has a HIPAA Authorization form that can be provided to you upon request.

Questions:

If you have questions about this communication or would like to request HIPAA Authorization forms, please contact your Provider Account Executive or the Provider Services department at **1-800-617-5727**.