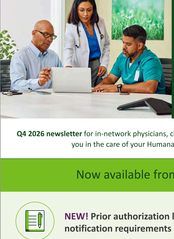
Humana

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Humana Physician News

Q4 2026 newsletter for in-network physicians, clinicians and office staff to support you in the care of your Humana-covered patients

Now available from Humana

NEW! Prior authorization lists (PAL) and notification requirements

Lists of services and medications effective Jan. 1, 2027, that may require prior authorization (PA) or notification for Humana patients with Medicare Advantage (MA) and Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans (D-SNPs) are now available. The **MA PAL notification letter** outlines upcoming PAL changes and related requirements.

Review PAL →

→ Easily determine if a PA is required with Humana's **search tool**. Search by Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) codes, procedures or generic drug name(s). Remember to verify benefit coverage in **Availity Essentials**.

Review medication coverage and PA updates

Important medication coverage and PA updates are available for Humana-covered patients, including Humana Healthy Horizons® Medicaid patients and Medicare Advantage prescription drug (MAPD) plan patients.

For Humana Healthy Horizons Medicaid patients, updated medication lists are available, including provider-administered medications that may require PA (PAL changes) and medications that may no longer be preferred or may have new coverage rules (preferred drug list (PDL) and comprehensive drug list (CDL) changes).

Medicaid PAL changes
Medicaid PDL and CDL changes

Effective Jan. 1, 2027, the Commonly Prescribed Drug List (CPDL) identifies covered drugs in select therapeutic classes that may be the most effective and affordable options for Humana-covered patients. Humana's Part B step therapy list also outlines preferred physician-administered drugs.

MAPD CPDL
Prescription drug plans (PDP) CPDL
Injectable drug and biologic step therapy requirements for MA plans

Humana is making it easier for patients who are currently on select brand immunology products to switch to a preferred biosimilar medication without needing a new PA approval. Review changes for Humana MAPD and prescription drug plan (PDP) patients below:

MAPD immunology coverage changes
PDP immunology coverage changes

Help reduce unreported conditions with stronger documentation

Unreported conditions have more than **tripled** since 2024, rising to **3.3 million** in 2026, year-to-date.[1] Common unreported conditions include heart failure, chronic kidney disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, diabetes and morbid obesity.

Clear, consistent diagnosis documentation helps support accurate coding, reduce claim denials and identify care gaps sooner. Use each encounter to capture the patient's complete clinical picture and document conditions with specificity to support patient-centered care.

Improve accuracy →

Make mental health a part of every visit

More than **1 in 5** U.S. adults live with a mental illness, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). A new Medicare Stars measure tracks which patients **have a depression screening**, such as the Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ)-2 or PHQ-9, and **follow-up care within 30 days** for those who screen positive. Regular screenings, open conversations and ongoing support can improve well-being.

Review screening guidance →

July–December visits shape patient experience survey results

Your patients provide feedback on the care they receive

The Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) survey measures how MA patients experience care from providers and office staff. A random sample of these patients will receive the survey in early 2027 and reflect on provider experiences from July–December. Consistent communication, timely access and patient-centered interactions can strengthen experiences and support better outcomes.

View CAHPS measures →

100-day prescriptions can support adherence

Most Humana Medicare Part D plans currently cover 100-day supplies for many medications, with availability expected to increase in 2027. Compared with 30-day fills, 100-day prescribing is associated with a **15% increase** in adherence and a **3% increase** over 90-day fills.[2] Consider 100-day supplies when clinically appropriate.

Explore 100-day options →

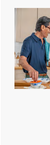
Research

New study offers provider context on MA payment policy

New research from Humana Healthcare Research, published in *Health Affairs Scholar,* finds that favorable selection — the idea that MA enrollees may be healthier than those in traditional Medicare — may be lower than commonly reported. While no provider action is needed, the study offers useful context for MA payment policy discussions, which can indirectly affect provider networks, reimbursement conversations and care delivery resources.

Review findings →

Resources and support



NEW! Published claims payment policies

Humana publishes medical claims payment policies to support accurate billing, helping reduce claim delays and additional information requests. Recent publications include:

- Short Inpatient Hospital Stay *Oklahoma Medicaid only* (NEW!)
- Automobile and Workplace Injuries (Revised)
- DMEPOS Proof of Delivery Documentation (Revised)
- Home Health Notice of Admission (NOA) (Revised)
- Modifier 62 (Revised)
- Multiple laboratory policies including Urinary Tumor Markers for Bladder Cancer (Revised)

Review policies →

Clinical guidelines

What is the cost of diabetes?

According to the CDC, diabetes costs the U.S. healthcare system and economy an estimated **$413 billion** annually through medical expenses and lost productivity. Evidence-based interventions—such as diabetes self-management education and support, lifestyle change programs and medication adherence—can improve outcomes and reduce costs. As adherence trends decline across three diabetes measures, timely provider action can help close gaps and improve patient health.

View care standards →

Additional links

Prior authorization and notification lists and search tool →
Important policy reminders →
Claims payment policies →
Claims processing edits →
Medical and Pharmacy Coverage Policies →
Moving to value-based care →
Making It Easier tutorials →
Clinical practice guidelines →
Behavioral health credentialing and resources →
Medicare/Medicaid annual compliance training →

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References

1. Humana internal data, Conditions Report: "Chronic Condition Summary," 2024-2026 year-to-date comparison.
2. Humana Pharmacy Solutions 2025 membership data.

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Humana
101 East Main Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
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