

New Behavioral Health Continuing Education Web Session

Harvard Pilgrim's behavioral health partner, Optum/United Behavioral Health, has launched the [third installment](#) of a three-part series of [free continuing education sessions](#) focused on the integration of behavioral health services into the clinical primary care setting and the successful management of population health for improved outcomes.

The sessions are designed to meet the educational needs of primary care physicians, physician assistants, nurses, and nurse practitioners who are interested in learning about pertinent topics in behavioral health, along with best practices related to several behavioral health Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measures. For each continuing education session you complete, you'll receive American Medical Association (AMA) and American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) credits.

The recently released third session ([Part Three: Behavioral Health Treatment for Children and Adolescents](#)) focuses on behavioral health treatment for children and adolescents and discusses the following HEDIS measures:

- [Follow-Up Care for Children Prescribed with ADHD medication \(ADD\)](#)
- [Metabolic Monitoring for Children and Adolescents on Antipsychotics \(APM\)](#)
- [Use of First-Line Psychosocial Care for Children and Adolescents on Antipsychotics \(APP\)](#)

In addition, the previous sessions are still available:

- [Part One: Depression and Follow-Up After Higher Levels of Care](#)
- [Part Two: Substance Use Disorders in Primary Care](#) ◆

COVID-19 Updates

As a reminder, please refer to our [COVID-19 Information for Providers](#) webpage for the most up-to-date information on COVID-19, including coverage of home tests, diagnostic testing and treatment, vaccines, and telehealth/telemedicine, as well as billing and coding guidance and other information.

To streamline information for providers, we have published the Medical Policy for [COVID-19 Monoclonal Antibody Therapy for the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19](#) in adult and pediatric patients with positive COVID-19 test results who are at high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19 and/or hospitalization.

Additionally, our prior authorization and concurrent review flexibilities have been extended for Massachusetts Commercial products in accordance with Massachusetts Division of Insurance [Bulletin 2022-03](#).

Be sure to check these resources regularly for updates. ◆

Complex Care Management Services

Harvard Pilgrim provides care management services to help patients attain optimal health and quality of life and achieve greater self-reliance in managing their health care. Our complex care managers are nurses who provide systematic coordination and assessment of services using evidence-based clinical guidelines. Harvard Pilgrim's complex care managers partner with our staff social workers and pharmacists to help coordinate care and access to services for patients with multiple complex conditions.

These programs assist patients with conditions such as chronic kidney disease, cancer, heart disease, asthma, diabetes, and a variety of rare diseases. Complex care managers help patients avert the need for more intensive medical services by providing them with information tailored to their needs and stage of

readiness. Our care management programs proactively identify at-risk patients, who typically have co-morbidities and psychosocial needs that can significantly diminish their quality of life and make it difficult for them to adhere to treatment plans.

Care management programs are available to members identified through:

- Algorithms based on medical, pharmacy, and/or radiology claim analysis
- Hospital discharge data
- Provider and case manager referral
- Self-referral
- Health risk appraisal

For more information about Harvard Pilgrim's complex care management programs, including how to refer patients, please visit the [Caring for Your Patient](#) section of our provider website, email requests_for_care_management@point32health.org, or call 866-750-2068. ◆

About Our Chronic Condition Management Programs

Harvard Pilgrim takes a comprehensive approach to chronic condition management, focusing on patient-centered care that coordinates resources across the health care delivery system and throughout the life cycle of a disease. Harvard Pilgrim's chronic condition management programs include a range of components specifically designed to reinforce clinicians' treatment plans.

These programs assist patients with conditions such as asthma, COPD, heart failure, and diabetes by helping them better understand their condition, giving them new information about their disease, and providing them with assistance from clinical health educators and pharmacists who can help them manage their disease.

Patients identified as having a chronic condition such as diabetes, heart failure, or asthma are automatically enrolled in Harvard Pilgrim's chronic condition management programs through the following:

- Referrals by their physicians, case managers, and specialty care providers
- Census reports from hospital or ER visits
- Medical and pharmacy claims analysis that identifies patients with appropriate diagnoses
- Self-referral
- Health risk appraisal

For a full list of all of Harvard Pilgrim's disease management programs, visit the [Caring for Your Patient](#) section of our provider website. To enroll a Harvard Pilgrim member into one of our programs, email requests_for_care_management@point32health.org or call 866-750-2068. ◆

Zolgensma Clinical Criteria Updates

Harvard Pilgrim is updating our commercial Medical Necessity Guidelines for Zolgensma (onasemnogene abeparvovec) Gene Therapy for Treatment of Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), effective for dates of service beginning April 18, 2022.

With the update, authorization for administration of Zolgensma will be valid for 6 months from the date of approval, not to exceed the date of the member's second birthday. Harvard Pilgrim will not cover Zolgensma infusion for the treatment of SMA type 0 or SMA type 4, as the safety and efficacy for use in these conditions is unproven and considered investigational.

In addition, we have added the following to the list of criteria that must be met at the time of infusion:

- The member has SMA diagnosed by a board-certified neurologist with special qualification in child neurology and the treatment of SMA
- Genetic testing/newborn screening confirms biallelic mutations (chromosome 5q related deletion or point mutations) in the survival motor neuron 1 (SMN1) gene and at least 2, but no more than 3, copies of the SMN2 gene
- If the member is currently receiving an alternative SMA therapy (e.g., Spinraza, Evrysdi), treatment must be discontinued prior to infusion of Zolgensma

For more information, including complete clinical coverage criteria, please refer to the updated [Zolgensma \(onasemnogene abeparvovec\) Gene Therapy for Treatment of Spinal Muscular Atrophy \(SMA\) policy](#). ♦

Updates to Non-Covered Services Medical Policy

Harvard Pilgrim is updating our commercial New Technology Assessment and Non-Covered Services Medical Policy, effective for dates of service beginning June 1, 2022, to include the following services and technologies as non-covered:

- Abiliti Gastric Stimulation
- Annular closure for prevention of recurrent lumbar disc herniation (LDH) after lumbar discectomy
- Autologous Serum Eye Drops
- Ear Popper™
- Electromagnetic Hearing Aids
- EndoBarrier Endoluminal Liner
- Endoscopic Sleeve Gastroplasty
- Erector Spinae Block for Treatment of Chronic Pain
- Esteem Totally Implantable Hearing System for Treatment of Moderate to Severe Sensorineural Hearing Loss in Adults
- Full Sense Bariatric Device
- Gastric Plication Surgery

- Gastric Vest System (ReShape)
- Juvederm for vocal cord paralysis
- Meniett Low-Pressure Pulse Generator for Treatment of Meniere's Disease
- Oncotype DX AR-V7 Nucleus Detect Test
- OtoSCOPE® Genetic Testing for Hereditary Hearing Loss
- Pulsed Radiofrequency Treatment of Chronic Shoulder Pain
- Relieva Balloon Sinuplasty (Acclarent Inc.) for Chronic Sinusitis in children
- StabiLink MIS Interlaminar Spinal Fixation System for Spinal Fusion
- SoundBite Hearing System (Sonitus Medical, Inc.)
- Tinnitus Treatment/Rehabilitation (e.g., Neuromonics® and other programs)
- Transoral Gastric Volume Reduction (TVGR)
- Transpalatal Advancement Pharyngoplasty for Sleep Apnea
- USGI Primary Obesity Surgery Endolumenal (POSE)
- Video Head Impulse testing (vHIT) for evaluation of vestibular disorders

For the complete list of services/technologies and codes, please refer to the updated [New Technology Assessment and Non-Covered Services Medical Policy](#). ◆

Breyanzi and Abecma Stride Medical Policies Updated

Harvard Pilgrim requires prior authorization for coverage of chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell immunotherapies for members of our StrideSM (HMO) Medicare Advantage plans, now including the medications Breyanzi and Abecma.

The following HCPCS codes will now require prior authorization, per National Drug Code guidelines:

- Breyanzi: Q2054 (Lisocabtagene maraleucel, up to 110 million autologous anti-CD19 CAR-positive viable T cells, including leukapheresis and dose preparation procedures, per therapeutic dose)
- Abecma: Q2055 (Idecabtagene vicleucel, up to 460 million autologous B-cell maturation antigen [BCMA] directed CAR-positive T cells, including leukapheresis and dose preparation procedures, per therapeutic dose)

For more information, please refer to Harvard Pilgrim's StrideSM (HMO) Medicare Advantage [Breyanzi](#) and [Abecma](#) Medical Policies. ◆

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