

Please circulate to others and file in your *Provider Manual* for future reference.

We would like to thank our primary care physicians and specialty providers who have been providing care to our CommuniCare members. To keep you informed of changes with Medicare, we are sharing key information from a recent release by Centers for Medicaid and Medicare (CMS) regarding new recommendations for screening of high risk Medicare members for the Human Immunodeficient Virus (HIV).

In accordance with the recommendations from the United States Preventive Services Taskforce (USPSTF) effective July 1st, 2010, Medicare recommends plans and providers work together to promote HIV screening for members with the following risk profiles:

- Men who have sex with men after 1975
- Men and women having unprotected sex with multiple partners
- Past or present injection drug users
- Men and women who exchange sex for money or drugs or have partners who do
- Individuals whose past or present sex partners were HIV infected, bisexual or injection drug users
- Persons being treated for Sexually Transmitted Diseases
- Person with a history of blood transfusions between 1978 and 1985
- Persons who request HIV screening despite reporting no individual risk factors
- Pregnant members during the third trimester and at labor

Please screen your patients to identify those with high risk profiles and offer HIV screening during routine office visits. Coordinate the testing with our contracted laboratory provider Quest. When ordering these tests, please use the following procedure codes: HCP codes G0432, G0433, G0435 and diagnosis code V73.89.

For any questions on claims submittal or coding, please contact Victor Gonzalez, Provider Relations Supervisor at (619) 498-6457.

For general questions about this screening please contact Martha Jazo Bajet, RN, MPH, Director of Utilization Management at (619) 498-6430.