**COVID-19 – interim coverage guidelines extended and key resources updated**

As previously communicated, our interim coverage guidelines were set to expire on May 31, 2020. Consistent with the federal guidelines for the public health emergency – and to help ensure providers can continue to provide safe care how and where patients want it – we are extending our interim coverage guidelines to July 31, 2020. This extension means the customer cost-share waivers for COVID-19 related care, our interim virtual care policy, and the administrative relief policy changes we have implemented over the past few months will remain in effect for an additional two months.

We updated the Cigna's response to COVID-19 provider web page on CignaforHCP.com to also highlight the new end date for coverage guidelines and to include information on the below

topics.  We encourage providers to visit this page often for the latest important COVID-19 provider information.

       eConsults

       Urgent care centers billing lab tests

       Pre-op surgery testing

       Authorization-related questions

**High-Tech Radiology Site of Care Program – new effective date**

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we decided to temporarily delay the April 15, 2020 launch of our high-technology radiology site-of-care pilot. This pilot will now begin on August 1, 2020.

We will include an update in the third quarter 2020 edition of Network News (available in late July), and eviCore will post the revised date on their website.

**Medical coverage policy update – intraoperative monitoring effective August 16, 2020**

Effective for dates of service beginning August 16, 2020, we will deny coverage for intraoperative monitoring (IOM) and the baseline electrodiagnostic procedures when performed during surgery at or below spinal level L1 as being medically unnecessary. This change aligns with our current medical coverage policy for Intraoperative Monitoring (0509).

Information about the update will be included in the third quarter 2020 edition of Network News (available in late July) and will also be available on the Cigna for Health Care Professionals website (CignaforHCP).

**Medical coverage policy update – Nucleic Acid Pathogen Panel effective August 16, 2020**

In alignment with our Nucleic Acid Pathogen Panel (0530) medical coverage policy, we will review tests for medical necessity. This update is effective for dates of service beginning August 16, 2020.

Information about the update will be included in the third quarter 2020 edition of Network News (available in late July) and will also be available on the Cigna for Health Care Professionals website (CignaforHCP).

Note: This policy update does not include testing for COVID-19.

**Reimbursement policy update – prostate needle biopsy effective August 18, 2020**

Effective for claims processed on or after August 18, 2020, we will deny reimbursement for a prostate needle biopsy when billed with Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) code 88305.

Providers should rebill claims with the appropriate Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code G0416 with one unit. We will update the Omnibus Reimbursement Policy (R24) to address the coding issue.

Information about the update will be included in the third quarter 2020 edition of Network News (available in late July) and will also be available on the Cigna for Health Care Professionals website (CignaforHCP).