

December 10, 2024

**Memo: Transition of Care Code Pilot**

Dear SummaCare Provider,

As part of SummaCare's ongoing evaluation and goal to improve outcomes for our members, SummaCare will be piloting the use of transition of care codes for our fully insured commercial/marketplace in 2025. The intent of the pilot is to determine if transition of care visits post hospital stay can lower readmission rates and/or ED utilization.

This pilot will allow payment (at contractual rates) for network PCPs or mid-level providers to submit transitional care codes 99495 or 99496 for payment.

This pilot will start with service dates of 1/1/25 through 12/31/25 for members who are admitted to the hospital as inpatient. Any claims submitted for a transition of care code service date after 12/31/25 will not be eligible for payment.

Transitional care services may be covered during the 30-day period that begins when a provider discharges a patient from an inpatient stay and continues for the next 29 days. These services help eligible patients transition back to a community setting after a stay at certain facility types. These visits must be completed face-to-face or through a telehealth visit.

The following should be included but limited to these visits:

- Provide moderate to high medical decision-making to members
- Medication Reconciliation and management
- Review discharge information
- Assess the need for diagnostic tests/treatments and/or follow-up on pending diagnostic tests/treatments
- Provide education to the member, family member, caregiver and/or guardian
- If appropriate, establish or re-establish referrals for other network providers and services including necessary community resources
- When necessary, assist in scheduling follow-up visits with providers and services

The following discharge facilities are applicable:

- Inpatient Acute Care Hospital (inpatient or observation)
- Inpatient Psychiatric Hospital (inpatient or observation)
- Inpatient rehabilitation facility
- Long-term acute care hospital (LTAC)
- Skilled nursing facility (SNF)
- Hospital outpatient observation or partial hospitalization
- Partial hospitalization at a community mental health center



Members must be discharged to a home, group home, long-term care facility, or to an assisted living facility.

After the pilot concludes and claims have been analyzed, a decision will be made as to whether these services will be eligible for payment in the future.

SummaCare is continually evaluating our programs and by working closely with our provider network, we seek to streamline our process when appropriate to ensure our members receive the highest quality of care with removal of unnecessary barriers to access.

If you have any questions, please contact Provider Support Services or your Provider Engagement Specialist at **330.996.8400** or **800.996.8401** or via email at **[contactproviderservices@summacare.com](mailto:contactproviderservices@summacare.com)**.