Effective January 1, 2015: Changes to diabetic supplies coverage

Effective January 1, 2015, UniCare Health Plan of West Virginia, Inc., (UniCare) will no longer cover certain diabetic supplies purchased from durable medical equipment (DME) providers. Impacted members will be sent a letter notifying them of the changes and will need to get a new prescription for supplies by January 1, 2015.

The following HCPCS codes will not be covered through DME providers. Supplies will be covered under the member’s pharmacy benefit:

- A4253 – Blood glucose test strips
- E0607 – Home blood glucose monitor
- E2100 – Blood glucose monitor with integrated voice synthesizer
- E2101 – Blood glucose monitor with integrated lancing/blood sample

The following blood glucometers and blood glucose test strips will be covered through members’ pharmacy benefit beginning January 1, 2015:

- Nipro Diagnostics TRUEresult® Meter
- Nipro Diagnostics TRUEtest™ Strips (subject to a limit of 100 blood glucose test strips per month)

Other blood glucometer or blood glucose test strip brands or quantities of more than 100 test strips per month are not covered unless medically necessary. Providers must submit a request to continue using another brand or larger quantity.

If your patient is a member who is currently using the specific Nipro Diagnostics blood test strips or glucometer products listed above and who is receiving those supplies from an in-network retail pharmacy, you don’t need to do anything.

If your patient is a member who is not using the specific Nipro Diagnostics blood test strips or glucometer products listed above or who is not receiving those supplies from an in-network retail pharmacy, then the member will need a new prescription for supplies by January 1, 2015, for the supplies to be covered by UniCare.

We encourage you to discuss coverage changes and possible new prescriptions with your patients who are UniCare members. If it is medically necessary for a member to continue using a different brand of blood test strips or glucometer and/or more than 100 blood test strips per month, request an exception by submitting a Pharmacy Prior Authorization Form.

Find the Pharmacy Prior Authorization Form on our provider website at www.unicare.com.

The benefit information in this communication is a brief summary, not a complete description of benefits. Limitations and restrictions may apply. If you have any questions about these benefit changes, call the Customer Care Center at 1-800-782-0095.