



Janice K. Brewer, Governor
Anthony D. Rodgers, Director

Our first care is your health care

ARIZONA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT SYSTEM

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June 26, 2009

Carolyn Rose
Chief Executive Officer
Health Choice Arizona
410 N. 44th St., Ste. 900
Phoenix, AZ 85008

RE: Notice to Cure for Performance Measures

Dear Ms. Rose,

The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System's Division of Health Care Management (DHCM) has completed an evaluation of Contractor results for the HEDIS-based Performance Measures contained in your contract, including preliminary results for the measurement period of the contract year ending 2008.

AHCCCS analyzed Contractor's performance over a three-year period, based on AHCCCS' consistent programming of the HEDIS measures. Beginning in July 2007, Notices to Cure were issued to Contractors for failure to meet AHCCCS performance expectations, which are outlined in contract, and include the expectation that Contractors improve performance from year to year. Our goal in issuing these Notices to Cure and requiring Contractors to evaluate the effectiveness of their corrective actions was to spur improvement, which Contractors had not demonstrated under routine regulatory actions.

Preliminary measure results for the period of CYE 2008, which are based on AHCCCS programming that is consistent with previous years, indicate that Contractors are able to effect overall improvements in their Performance Measure results, at a level not previously seen. Thus, we view the Notices to Cure as having achieved their purpose, and are relieving Contractors of any pending Performance Measure sanctions.

Based on Health Choice Arizona's improvement and positive three-year trend, AHCCCS will not be applying sanctions for Performance Measure results for CYE 2007 and CYE 2008. Your preliminary results show that nearly all Medicaid measures appear to be trending upward, except for Timeliness of Prenatal Care. Preliminary results also show that eight measures — Well Child Visits in the First 15 Months, Children's and Adolescents' Access to PCPs (all four age groups), Adults' Access to Care at 45 to 64 Years, Breast Cancer Screening and Chlamydia Screening — are still below the CYE 2008 contractual Minimum Performance Standards.

Once the CYE 2008 analysis is finalized, you will receive a separate correspondence should a corrective action plan be required for measures not meeting AHCCCS Minimum Performance Standards.

Be advised that Contractors may be subject to sanctions if they do not demonstrate continued improvement toward meeting and exceeding the AHCCCS contractual Minimum Performance Standards in the future.

If you have any questions, please contact Kim Elliott, PhD, CPHQ, Clinical Quality Management Administrator, at 602-427-4782, or Kim.Elliott@azahcccs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Veit". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Michael Veit
Contracts and Purchasing Administrator

cc: Molly Greenwade, Compliance Officer, Health Choice Arizona
Kim Elliott, PhD, CPHQ, Clinical Quality Management Administrator

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