



December 2009

Important notice: Update on Physical Medicine and Chiropractic benefits effective February 1, 2010

Dear SISC Member:

Beginning on February 1, 2010 SISC medical plans will be using the experts at American Specialty Health (ASH) to help guide the care of their members as it relates to physical medicine benefits. Physical medicine includes services generally provided by a physical therapist, occupational therapist or chiropractor. This benefit includes medically necessary services for the treatment of an illness or injury for the purpose of improving function, strengthening muscles or encouraging the return of motion.

ASH medical policies, clinical guidelines and forms are available on line at:
<http://www.ashcompanies.com/Providers/CQM/CQM.aspx>

ASH will work with chiropractors, physical therapists, occupational therapists and patients to ensure all care is medically necessary.

Whenever you begin to undergo any physical medicine treatment – or if you are currently undergoing treatment, please advise your provider to contact ASH for a review by calling (800) 972-4226. All providers, regardless of whether or not they are contracted with ASH will need to contact ASH for a medical necessity review.

If you or your provider has any questions about this new requirement, please call the customer service phone number on the back of your ID card.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Timothy W. Snyder".

Timothy W. Snyder
RVP Large Group Strategic Accounts
Anthem Blue Cross