

## ASTHMA DISEASE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

October 4, 2011

Dear Phoenix Health Plan (PHP) and Abrazo Advantage Health Plan (AAHP) Providers,

PHP and AAHP have some great information to share regarding managing asthma for your patients as detailed below.

**Peak flow meters** (PFM) are covered by PHP/AAHP. They are supplied by Preferred Home Care. The request for the PFM can be faxed to Preferred Home Care at 480-446-7695.

**Asthma Clinical Guidelines** PHP uses nationally recognized clinical practice guidelines to guide its coverage and case management of asthma, as is required of AHCCCS and CMS.

**Singular** (montelukast), **Accolate** (zafirlukast), **Advair** (fluticasone-salmeterol) and **Symbicort** (budesonide-formoterol) are available as step therapy only when the patient fills their inhaled corticosteroid (Flovent or QVAR) in a timely manner and continues to do so. The patient must fill their ICS on time at least two (2) months in a row before the meds will process without prior authorization.

You can find additional information in the pocket guideline created by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) and the National Asthma Education and Prevention Program (NAEPP) that can be found at:

[http://www.asthmatracktest.com/pdf/NIH\\_PocketGuide.pdf](http://www.asthmatracktest.com/pdf/NIH_PocketGuide.pdf).

If you have any questions, please contact your Provider Relations Representative directly or at the department number shown below.

***THANK YOU***

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