



July 1, 2013

Announcement 619

## **Attention Outpatient Hospitals: Respiratory Therapy Services Require Authorization**

Per Medicaid Services Manual (MSM) Chapter 1700, effective January 1, 2013, all therapy services including respiratory therapy code 94640 (Pressurized or non-pressurized inhalation treatment for acute airway obstruction or for sputum induction for diagnostic purposes) require prior authorization (PA). To be in compliance with the therapy authorization requirement, outpatient hospitals providing emergency respiratory services for respiratory distress in the emergency or urgent care service areas must submit a PA request within one business day of the emergent service. Please review outpatient hospital service coverage and limitation policy in MSM Chapter 200, Section 203.4.

The Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP) is reviewing the retro authorization process for claims for CPT code 94640 for respiratory distress in an emergency or urgent care service area where a PA was not obtained for service dates between January 1, 2013, and July 1, 2013. Providers will be notified of any instructions for these claims through a web announcement.