

# Provider Update

*This update contains pertinent information about changes that will impact the Johns Hopkins HealthCare provider network.*

## Prenatal Obstetrical Ultrasound Policy Clarifications<sup>1</sup>

Johns Hopkins HealthCare (JHHC) has updated the Prenatal Obstetrical Ultrasound medical policy (CMS16.19). This policy is effective Jan. 15, 2018. We have included a summary of the changes for your convenience; however, we recommend that you refer directly to the medical policy. JHHC medical policies can be found at: [www.jhhc.com](http://www.jhhc.com) > For Providers > Policies.

The details for each health plan are below:

### Priority Partners and US Family Health Plan (Hospital Setting\*)

Do Require Prior Authorization	Do Not Require Prior Authorization
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obstetrical ultrasounds for non-emergent or non-life-threatening conditions</li> <li>• All 3-D obstetrical ultrasounds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obstetrical ultrasounds related to an emergent or life-threatening condition</li> </ul>

### Priority Partners and US Family Health Plan (Office or free standing radiology center\*\*)

Do Require Prior Authorization	Do Not Require Prior Authorization
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four or more obstetrical ultrasounds for low-risk pregnancy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obstetrical ultrasounds for high-risk pregnancies</li> <li>• Up to THREE (3) prenatal obstetrical ultrasounds are medically necessary during the course of a normal or low-risk pregnancy for the following: dating (first trimester); blood and nuchal translucency (first trimester, 10-14 weeks); anatomy scan (second trimester, 18-22 weeks)</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> If there is any discrepancy between this Provider Update and the medical policy of Johns Hopkins HealthCare, the medical policy shall prevail.

Providers should submit information supporting the medical necessity for additional obstetrical ultrasounds to the Utilization Management department.

**Employer Health Programs (EHP) and Advantage MD (HMO) & (PPO)  
(Hospital Setting, Office or free standing radiology center)**

Do Require Prior Authorization	Do Not Require Prior Authorization
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four or more obstetrical ultrasounds for low-risk pregnancy</li> <li>• All 3-D obstetrical ultrasounds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obstetrical ultrasounds related to an emergent or life-threatening condition</li> <li>• Obstetrical ultrasounds for high-risk pregnancies</li> <li>• Up to THREE (3) prenatal obstetrical ultrasounds are medically necessary during the course of a normal or low-risk pregnancy for the following: dating (first trimester); blood and nuchal translucency (first trimester, 10-14 weeks); anatomy scan (second trimester, 18-22 weeks)</li> </ul>

Providers should submit information supporting the medical necessity for additional obstetrical ultrasounds to the Utilization Management department.

**Prior Authorization**

Providers seeking to perform these services will need to submit a prior authorization request to Johns Hopkins HealthCare (JHHC) via fax. For Advantage MD, please submit faxes at 855-704-5296. For all other lines of business, please submit faxes at 410-762-5205. The prior authorization request should include all pertinent clinical information to support medical necessity.

\*“Hospital Setting” refers to any outpatient hospital, regardless of location, or is considered a health care setting whose rates are regulated by the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC), also referred to as “regulated space.”

\*\*“Office or free standing radiology center”—also referred to as “unregulated space” within the state of Maryland.

*Please contact the JHHC Provider Relations department at 1-888-895-4998 with any questions or concerns*