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CMS Interoperability and Patient Access Final Rule

CMS continues to build on its roadmap to improve interoperability and health information access for patients, providers, and payers. When implemented effectively, health information exchange (interoperability) can also reduce the burden of certain administrative processes, such as prior authorization. We have issued regulations that will drive change in how clinical and administrative information is exchanged between payers, providers and patients, and will support more efficient care coordination.

The CMS regulations include policies, which require or encourage payers to implement Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) to improve the electronic exchange of health care data – sharing information with patients or exchanging information between a payer and provider or between two payers. APIs can connect to mobile apps or to a provider electronic health record (EHR) or practice management system to enable a more seamless method of exchanging information. The regulations also include policies which may reduce burdens of the prior authorization process by increasing automation and encouraging improvements in policies and procedures to streamline decision making and communications.

Members – Contact Customer Service at the number on the back of your membership card for additional information.