



## Revised Prior Authorization List

Dear Provider:

CenCal Health is dedicated to ensuring appropriateness of care for members, while addressing medical necessity and health care trends. In line with this, CenCal Health completed an in-depth review and has added to the list of services and procedures that currently require **prior authorization**.

Effective for dates of services **on and after January 1, 2009**, all services and procedures on the newly published list must also be pre-authorized for payment. These procedures are in addition to services that Medi-Cal currently requires a TAR for, as those requirements have not changed at this time. Speech and occupational therapy are no longer considered limited services; therefore, will not require a Med-Reservation, but instead will need prior authorization. Providers may request another copy of the list by contacting their Provider Services Representative. They may also reference a complete list of services that require prior authorization via the CenCal Health website at [http://www.cencalhealth.org/for\\_providers/procedures\\_TAR/tar\\_required.html](http://www.cencalhealth.org/for_providers/procedures_TAR/tar_required.html).

Remember that this tool reflects current dates of service. **Therefore, new authorization requirements will be reflected on and after January 1, 2009.**

To submit prior authorization requests, providers should continue to use a Treatment Authorization Request (TAR) or an Authorization Request (AR) form. Please note that a TAR is used for Santa Barbara Health Initiative (SBHI) and San Luis Health Initiative (SLOHI) members and the AR is used for all other CenCal Health members. Providers requesting prior authorization will be provided a decision within five (5) business days from the date of the request when all clinical information is available. The best turnaround time is still achieved utilizing the electronic treatment authorization request form on CenCal Health's website at [www.cencalhealth.org](http://www.cencalhealth.org).

We greatly appreciate the services you provide on behalf of CenCal Health members. For questions about CenCal Health's medical policies, clinical Utilization Management (UM) guidelines, and prior authorizations, please contact the UM Department at (805) 685-9525, extension 1820.

Sincerely,

Irwin Harris, MD  
Chief Medical Officer