An Important Message from

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)

Texas Medicaid Guidance in Response to Philips Recall of Respiratory Devices

Background:

On June 14, 2021, Philips Respironics initiated a voluntary recall notification for specific models of continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP), bilevel positive airway pressure (BPAP), and mechanical ventilator devices to ensure patient safety. The recall is to address potential health risks related to the polyester-based polyurethane (PE-PUR) sound abatement foam used in certain devices. Please see the recall notification in the Philips Respironics website for additional information and a complete list of models.

https://www.usa.philips.com/healthcare/e/sleep/communications/src-update

Key Details:

Durable medical equipment (DME) providers and other healthcare providers should be aware of this recall. The recall will make it necessary for certain members to obtain new respiratory devices. Replacements will be facilitated by physicians and DME providers.

If a member contacts UnitedHealthcare requesting a replacement respiratory device, we will assist the member by connecting them to the appropriate provider and assisting all parties in coordinating the replacement.

We have a process in place for DME providers to request replacement devices. For existing prior authorizations, previously submitted documentation supporting medical necessity is sufficient to request the replacement of a rental device. Prior authorization requests for the replacement of a purchased respiratory device may also be processed with documentation used to support the medical necessity of the previous purchase.

Action:

We have notified all appropriate staff of the recall including service coordination and case management, member services, and utilization review teams. We are aware of any actions needed to help members transition to the new device and assist with adjustments to treatment such as additional observational requirements needed during titration period. MCO staff should be prepared to communicate with ordering providers, DME providers, and members to facilitate a smooth equipment transition.

Resources:
https://www.usa.philips.com/healthcare/e/sleep/communications/src-update