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May 3, 2019

Ms. Amber Kemp, MBA
Vice President, Health Care Coverage
California Hospital Association (CHA)
1215 K Street, Suite 800
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: UnitedHealthcare's Adoption of Sepsis-3 Clinical Guidelines in California

Dear Ms. Kemp:

Thank you for the continued dialogue and collaboration regarding UnitedHealthcare's adoption of the Third International Consensus Definitions for Sepsis and Sepsis Shock ("Sepsis-3"), and the Surviving Sepsis Campaign International Guidelines for Management of Sepsis and Septic Shock: 2016, effective January 1, 2019.

As discussed at our meeting on April 30th, UnitedHealthcare agrees to temporarily suspend its implementation of the Sepsis-3 Clinical Guidelines from May 1, 2019 to Nov. 1, 2019 with UnitedHealthcare's California participating hospitals only (the "California Hospitals"). This decision is based on the California Hospitals' need for additional time to work through its administrative and other issues that are unique to the California market due to the California Hospitals' prevalent use of full-risk, capitated, delegated network arrangements. As discussed, UnitedHealthcare understands that the California Hospitals need this additional time to work through any downstream entity contractual and claims adjudication issues, as applicable. California is the only state exempted from UnitedHealthcare's Sepsis-3 Clinical Guidelines. Therefore, UnitedHealthcare will use Sepsis-2 in its post-payment DRG claim reviews with California Hospitals during this six month temporary suspension period in California only.

Sepsis diagnoses are on the rise, which is attributed to the use of outdated definitions and criteria. By adopting Sepsis-3, UnitedHealthcare wishes to promote accurate diagnosis and treatment of sepsis. UnitedHealthcare also adopted the Surviving Sepsis Campaign which is a multinational effort to reduce deaths due to sepsis. These guidelines were developed in 2016 by a consensus committee of 55 international experts representing 25 international organizations. UnitedHealthcare believes that use of these management guidelines will result in improved quality of care and outcomes in California. Nevertheless, UnitedHealthcare supports the California Hospitals' need for the additional six months to work with their capitated, delegated partners.

UnitedHealthcare will communicate this message to the California Hospitals next week. We also plan to respond to CHA's April 18, 2019 letter. We look forward to continuing to meet with CHA and the California Hospitals to discuss the relevant use of the Sepsis-3 Clinical Guidelines.

Sincerely,

John C. Chang, M.D.

John C. Chang, MD, MBA

Regional VP/Chief Medical Officer Employer & Individual/Medicare & Retirement

Senior Market Medical Director, West Region

UnitedHealthcare Clinical Services