

August 2, 2013

«First_Name» «Last_Name», «Title»

«Address__1»

«Address__2»

«City», «State» «Zip»

**Re: HEDIS[®] Appropriate Testing for Children with Pharyngitis (CWP)
HEDIS[®] Appropriate Treatment for Children with Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)**

Dear «First_Name» «Last_Name», «Title»:

We know that you are an invaluable medical professional who strives to provide the highest quality of care to your patients. We are sending this letter as a part of our continued efforts to ensure that you are aware of Jai Medical Systems Managed Care Organization, Inc.'s quality assurance standards as they relate to HEDIS[®] (Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set). It is our hope that this information will assist you in achieving our quality assurance goals.

The **Appropriate Pharyngitis Testing Measure** evaluates children, 2 to 18 years of age, who are coded with a single diagnosis of pharyngitis and are prescribed an antibiotic. Those who received a group A streptococcus (strep) test will pass the measure and those who do not have a strep test will fail. If you perform a strep test that will be read by a laboratory, the lab will bill it automatically. However, if you are performing a rapid strep test in your office, please ensure that you are billing for it with the **CPT code 87880**.

The **Appropriate Upper Respiratory Infection Treatment Measure** evaluates the children, 3 months to 18 years of age, who are coded with a diagnosis of upper respiratory infection (URI) as their only diagnosis during that office visit. The child will pass the measure if they are **not** dispensed an antibiotic prescription. If the child is coded with multiple diagnoses such as fever and URI, the child will not fall into this measure.

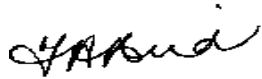
As you already know, it is important to always code as completely and accurately as possible. It will make a positive difference in our HEDIS[®] scores if you code all diagnoses used in your decision to prescribe antibiotics. Please note that for both of these measures, if there is more than one diagnosis during the office visit, the child will not fall into the measure.

Attached you will find a criteria receipt. After reviewing the standards for these measures, please sign and fax this receipt to Stephanie Scharpf at (410) 433-4615.

We believe that the information provided will help you understand how HEDIS[®] will be used to interpret the quality of care provided to our members. Please remember that this information has been adapted from HEDIS[®] guidelines and should not be substituted for your sound medical

judgment. Thank you for your continued efforts to ensure that our members receive the highest quality of care possible. Please feel free to contact us at (410) 433-2200 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Frances Bird, M.D.
Director, Quality Assurance

Sincerely,



Stephanie Scharpf
Director, Regulatory Compliance and
Administration