



June 8, 2021

Dear Commonwealth Care Alliance Provider,

At Commonwealth Care Alliance (CCA), we are dedicated to improving care for individuals dually eligible for MassHealth and Medicare with complex medical, behavioral health, and social needs. Our mission is to provide the best possible care to the members we serve.

Following the precedent established by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CCA recognizes the frequency of readmissions to an acute care hospital shortly after discharge is an index for quality of care. Thus, CCA has implemented a process for reviewing such readmissions.

Effective July 1, 2021, CCA will be instituting a revised payment policy for readmissions to the same hospital or hospital system within 30 days. CCA and its affiliates will conduct **post-pay** readmission reviews to determine if the readmission could have been prevented due to one or more of the following conditions:

- If the readmission was medically unnecessary,
- If the readmission resulted from a premature discharge from the same hospital, or
- If the readmission was the result of circumvention of Prospective Payment System by the same hospital.

Note: The above guidelines are only applicable for review if the member entered the same acute facility within 30 days.

For more details, please visit our website at [commonwealthcarealliance.org](https://www.commonwealthcarealliance.org). The Readmissions Within 30 Days policy can be found on the “For Providers” section under Policies and Guidelines: Payment Policies.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the CCA Provider Services team at 866-420-9332.

Thank you for your continued support and the quality care you provide to CCA members.

Sincerely,

Commonwealth Care Alliance Provider Services