



# PROVIDER QUICK TIPS

#279

## Implementation of Screening Guidelines for Prior Authorizations

The Department of Human Services (Department) experienced a delay in implementing the updates noted in Medical Assistance (MA) Bulletin 99-25-03 titled, “Updates to Screening Guidelines for Prior Authorization”

(<https://www.pa.gov/content/dam/copapwp-pagov/en/dhs/documents/docs/publications/documents/forms-and-pubs-omap/mab2025062401.pdf>). This MA Bulletin advised providers that the Department would transition from InterQual guidelines to Milliman Clinical Guidelines (MCG) as the screening guidelines for prior authorization requests to determine medical necessity for services, items, procedures, or level of care provided to MA beneficiaries in the Fee-for-Service (FFS) delivery system, effective July 18, 2025. Quick Tip #276 titled “Delayed Implementation of Updated to Screening Guidelines for Prior Authorizations” was published July 31, 2025 to inform providers of a delay in the implementation.

The causes of the delay have been addressed. The Department will begin using MCG as the screening guidelines for prior authorization requests to determine medical necessity, effective September 19, 2025.

Thank you for your service to our MA beneficiaries.

We value your participation.

Check the Department’s website often at: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dhs.html>

