



Memo No: 20-06

TO: Independence Blue Cross Participating Hospitals in Pennsylvania

FROM: Margaret T. Kelly *MTK*
Manager, Hospital Services

DATE: August 25, 2006

SUBJECT: INTERQUAL[®] 2006 CRITERIA

The purpose of this communication is to notify all contracted facilities that, effective October 2, 2006, Independence Blue Cross (IBC) will upgrade the version of the InterQual Criteria Products currently in use. This includes the related internal computer-system CareEnhance Review Manager Enterprise (CERMe) product version 5.0.1 release of the 2006 criteria.

The InterQual criteria are utilized by the Care Management and Coordination Department as guidelines to assist decision-making about medical appropriateness and level of care determinations. McKesson Health Solutions is the creator and proprietor of the InterQual criteria and the CERMe product.

The following 2006 InterQual Criteria products are impacted:

- 2006 InterQual Level of Care Products
Acute Criteria: Pediatric, Adult
Post Acute Criteria: Subacute & Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Adult; Rehabilitation, Adult and Pediatric; Long-Term Acute Care, Adult
- 2006 InterQual Care Planning Product

Please note that IBC will not be reviewing for Level III placement, as there are no credentialed or contracted facilities with Level III.

If you have any questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Jamie Stanton, Senior Director, Care Management and Coordination, 215-241-4635.

We encourage you to share this information with appropriate members of your staff.

Independence Blue Cross offers products directly, through its subsidiaries Keystone Health Plan East and QCC Insurance Company, and with Highmark Blue Shield — independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.