

UMeNewsletter

IN THIS ISSUE

CONSULTATION SERVICES PROVIDED BY PHYSICIAN AND REQUIREMENTS

➤ **CONSULTATION
SERVICES**
.....pg1

A Consultation is an evaluation and management service provided by physicians and qualified non physician practitioners (NPP). These services are distinguished from other evaluation and management services (E&M) because it is provided by the physician or NPP whose opinion or advice regarding the evaluation and /or management of a specific problem is requested by another physician or other appropriate source.

Request and need for a consultation should be documented by the consultant in the patient's medical record and included in the requesting physician's plan of care. As the referral must be medically necessary, a copy of the referral request, which is to be dated on or before the actual test date, must be documented within the patient's chart.

After the consultation occurs, a written report of his /her findings must be prepared, in addition to recommendations provided to the referring physician. The documentation has to meet the requirements for any referral.

Indications:

The intent of the consultation is that a physician or qualified NPP asks another physician or NPP for advice, opinion, and direction in evaluating a patient for the reason that this particular consultant has expertise in a specific area beyond the requesting physician's scope of knowledge.

Please remember that the following 3 R's are not only essential requirements for a consultation but all three R's must be met:

- (1) Request from another Provider,
- (2) Render an opinion, and
- (3) Provide a written Report

***Info source from Medicare at www.highmarkmedicare.com. Consultation Criteria LCDL27484 ***

