

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
San Francisco Regional Office
90 Seventh Street, Suite 5-300 (5W)
San Francisco, CA 94103-6706



DIVISION OF MEDICAID & CHILDREN'S HEALTH OPERATIONS

September 30, 2015

Mari Cantwell, Chief Deputy Director
California Department of Health Care Services
P.O. Box 997413, MS 0000
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

Dear Ms. Cantwell:

On June 30, 2015, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) a request for a Superior Systems Waiver (SSW) renewal, from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2017. This waiver renewal has been approved and is effective October 1, 2015.

The SSW renewal describes how DHCS will begin, effective January 1, 2016, collaborating with all non-designated public hospitals and private hospitals to transition away from the hospital admission treatment authorization process to performing their own utilization review for certain admissions. The utilization management systems are nationally recognized, evidence-based medical criteria, InterQual and Milliman Care Guidelines.

CMS appreciates DHCS' collaboration on this matter. We look forward to continuing our work on the SSW. If you have any questions, please contact Zachery Weaver at (415) 744-3553.

Sincerely,

/s/

Henrietta Sam-Louie
Acting Associate Regional Administrator
Division of Medicaid & Children's Health Operations

cc: Doug Robins, DHCS
Paul Miller, DHCS