



M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Valued STAR and CHIP Providers

FROM: El Paso Health

DATE: January 2, 2021

RE: Updated COVID – 19 _ Prior Authorization Guidance for Extensions through December 31, 2020

HHSC has issued guidance on the 90-day extension for previously approved acute care authorizations which will only be provided for authorizations with end dates between March 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020.

It is no longer necessary to request an override of a current 90-day extension. Providers will need to follow the current prior authorization process when requesting a new authorization for services. Please include the Texas Standard Prior Authorization Request Form along with all pertinent documentation. The 90-day extension will be terminated the day prior to the new date of service on the new authorization. This will prevent any lack in coverage days.

Requests for new authorizations will be processed according to medical necessity and current guidelines.

Authorization requests may be faxed to 915-298-7866 or toll free to 1-844-298-7866. You may also contact the El Paso Health Utilization Management Department at 915-532-3778 ext. 1500.

Please contact our Provider Relations Department at 915-532-3778 for any questions regarding this information.

El Paso Health will provide updates as new information is received.

Resources:

TMHP : Prior Authorization Requests Extended Due to COVID-19 Public Health Emergency through December 31, 2020

<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/health/coronavirus-covid-19/medicaid-chip-services-information-providers>