

# Prior authorization for in-network SNF admissions temporarily waived

In response to the current COVID-19 surge, we're temporarily removing the prior authorization requirement for admissions to participating Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) for all plans and all diagnoses, effective immediately.

## Supporting transitions of care

Effective immediately, we're temporarily waiving prior authorizations for in-network SNF admissions for all our members and all diagnoses. The purpose of this waiver is to facilitate movement of patients from general acute-care hospitals to SNFs by reducing administrative burden and unnecessary delays in transitions of care.

This waiver **does not apply to IRF, LTACH, or out-of-network SNF admissions.**

SNFs are still required to notify Geisinger Health Plan of admissions within 2 business days of admission for purposes of discharge planning and ensuring continuity of care. SNF admissions are still required to meet medical necessity criteria outlined in medical policy [MP332](#). Geisinger Health Plan medical policies are available online in the For Providers section of our web page at [www.geisinger.org/health-plan](http://www.geisinger.org/health-plan).

Additional notification will be given in advance of reinstituting prior authorization requirements for in-network SNF admissions.

## Who to call

Be sure to check our [coronavirus information for providers](#) page regularly for the latest updates on our response to the COVID-19 pandemic. If you have questions regarding this notice, call your Geisinger Health Plan provider account manager at **800-876-5357**.

Thank you for your patience and the care you provide for your Geisinger Health Plan patients!