

## Regarding Certification for Utilization Pause for Prior Authorization and Concurrent Review, Acute Care and Post-Acute Care Services

**Due to Circular Letter. No. 9 for Executive Order No. 4  
Effective Immediately through October 27, 2021\***

As you may be aware, Governor Hochul issued Executive Order (EO) No. 4 on September 27, 2021, that temporarily suspends utilization review activities to address administrative impacts because of current health care staffing shortages. Last week, New York State (NYS) Department of Financial Services (DFS) released Circular Letter No. 9 (2021) that further explained the suspensions related to certain pre-authorization requirements, concurrent review for inpatient and outpatient hospital services, and internal and external appeal timeframes.

In compliance with EO No. 4 and Circular Letter No. 9, MVP Health Care® (MVP) will implement temporary suspensions for such utilization review activities. As directed by NYS, however, eligible hospitals must send an appropriate certification, signed by their Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, or Officer for the Governing Board (i.e., Chairperson, President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer only).

**Eligible hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and behavioral health/substance use facilities must use the certification form** developed by NYS DFS and Department of Health (DOH), which must include the estimated number of staff who will be reassigned from utilization review functions to patient care activities, which type of utilization review requirements are requested for temporary suspension, and whether a tolling of the internal and/or external appeal timeframes are requested. A copy of the certification form can be found at **[dfs.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2021/10/cl2021\\_09\\_certification\\_form.pdf](https://dfs.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2021/10/cl2021_09_certification_form.pdf)**.

Completed certification forms must be provided to MVP at **[DL\\_Hospital\\_Certification@mvphealthcare.com](mailto:DL_Hospital_Certification@mvphealthcare.com)**, with a copy provided to NYS DOH at **[URAgent@health.ny.gov](mailto:URAgent@health.ny.gov)**. Please note, if external appeal timeframes are requested for tolling, a copy must also be provided to NYS DFS at **[externalappealquestions@dfs.ny.gov](mailto:externalappealquestions@dfs.ny.gov)**. Should the temporary suspension(s) be no longer needed, the facility is responsible for immediately informing MVP, NYS DOH, and NYS DFS, as applicable.

*\*These temporary suspensions will be permitted through October 27, 2021, or until such time as EO No. 4 is rescinded.*

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**Questions?** Contact your MVP Professional Relations Representative or call the MVP Customer Care Center for Provider Services at 1-800-684-9286.

