

June 8, 2021

AHA Expresses Concern with UnitedHealthcare Policy to Allow for Retroactive Denial of Coverage for Emergency-level Care

The AHA today expressed deep concern to UnitedHealthcare regarding its recent policy announcement to allow for the retroactive denial of coverage for emergency-level care in facilities.

“This policy would put patients’ health and wellbeing in jeopardy, and we urge you to reverse the policy immediately,” AHA wrote today in a letter to UnitedHealthcare.

“Patients are not medical experts and should not be expected to self-diagnose during what they believe is a medical emergency. Threatening patients with a financial penalty for making the wrong decision could have a chilling effect on seeking emergency care. This is dangerous for patients’ health at any time, but is particularly unsafe in the midst of a public health emergency.”

In addition, AHA urged UHC to evaluate whether some of its other policies that restrict enrollees’ coverage for a wide range of hospital outpatient department services may contribute to access challenges for patients.

To read the full AHA letter, [click here](#).

FURTHER QUESTIONS

If you have questions, please contact AHA at 800-424-4301.