A Message to

Business Office Managers

8000 Midlantic Drive, Suite 333, Mt. Laurel N.J. 08054

MEMORANDUM

TO: **All Contracting Ambulance Providers**

FROM: Kathleen Mariano
Manager, Provider Relations

DATE: **January 30, 2002**

SUBJECT: Reminder: Current Pre-certification Policy and Procedure

This bulletin is to serve as a reminder of the pre-certification policy currently in place for ambulance transports.

1.) Pre-certification is not required for ambulance services rendered by an in-network provider when providing transportation from an acute medical hospital to another acute medical hospital. When billing for these services, report the **"HH"** modifier as described in the 2001 HCPCS manual.

PLEASE NOTE: AmeriHealth Personal Choice does not require pre-certification for transports between an acute medical hospital and a mental health/substance abuse facility or from a mental health/substance abuse facility to another mental health/substance abuse facility. The **"HH"** modifier is required when providing this service.

PLEASE NOTE: AmeriHealth/AmeriHealth 65 HMO requires pre-certification through Magellan EPA RSC for transports between an acute medical hospital and a mental health/substance abuse facility or from a mental health/substance abuse facility to another mental health/substance abuse facility.

2.) Pre-certification is not required for emergency transports.

3.) Pre-certification on the basis of medical necessity is required for all other **non-emergency transports** e.g., home to doctor's office, or hospital to skilled nursing

facility. There will be a **100% penalty** applied to the provider when pre-certification is not obtained for these non-emergency ambulance services. Additionally, the subscriber will not be financially responsible for such services.

The pre-certification department should not be contacted for emergency transports or acute hospital transports as described above. In order to obtain pre-certification, you may contact the following numbers:

- **AmeriHealth/AmeriHealth Personal Choice** (800) 227-3116
- **AmeriHealth 65** (800) 313-8564
- **Magellan** for **AmeriHealth/AmeriHealth 65 HMO** (800) 688-1911

Claims may be submitted directly to the appropriate claim mailing address for processing.

AmeriHealth
AmeriHealth Service Center
P.O. Box 41574
Philadelphia, PA 19101-1574

If you have any questions concerning this bulletin, please contact Kimberly Lees-Pratt, Ancillary Coordinator, at (856) 778-6652.