July 9, 2014

Blue Cross of Idaho has adopted a reporting tool designed to share information about comparative healthcare cost patterns within Idaho. Earlier this year, we began sharing this information with physicians so they can see how their practice patterns for commonly treated conditions compare with their peers throughout the state.

We now have the report available online for review under your secure provider login. The score and the reports will be listed under the **Key Performance Indicator** (KPI) section beginning July 1, 2014, and will be periodically updated as our data set is refreshed. We have expanded the number of specialties represented to a total of 29.

These reports are not intended to be statements about the ability or quality of a physician, but strictly as a means to relate the relative cost efficiency of each physician within his or her specialty peer group. We plan to include this measure as a KPI to differentiate physician payment in 2015.

A performance score of 1.00 reflects the peer group average in most cases. A performance score less than 1.00 indicates a clinic or physician’s costs for treating common conditions are lower than the average for their specialty. A score greater than 1.00 indicates a clinic or physician’s costs are higher than the average for their specialty. The scores are adjusted for patient complexity including patient age, gender and comorbidities, and severity of the medical episode.

Reports are available in two formats. A clinic-level report represents all physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants who bill under one Tax ID number. The second report is for individual practitioners. The reports are based on cost and utilization data for a 12-month period from commercial claims submitted to Blue Cross of Idaho and exclude Federal Employee Plan and Medicare Advantage claims.

If you have any difficulties locating the reports, please contact your Provider Relations Representative, reference PAP100. If you wish to schedule a meeting to discuss this information, please contact Becki Wallace, Health Systems Performance Specialist, at 208-331-8874 or bwallace@bcidaho.com.

Sincerely,

Provider Services
Blue Cross of Idaho