

## Independent Medical Review

***Founded by physicians in 1974, Permedion is a not-for-profit health care quality review and improvement organization.***

With a unique combination of statistical and clinical expertise, Permedion works with health care providers, government agencies, and managed care plans to review, measure, and improve health care quality. Our staff includes physicians, nurses, epidemiologists and data analysts, systems experts, and health administration professionals.

***Our services include:***

- Independent Medical Review
- HEDIS® Hybrid Data Collection and Consulting
- Clinical Quality Studies
- Quality Improvement Support

Since 1985 Permedion also has provided external quality review organization (EQRO) and utilization review (UR) services to several state Medicaid programs throughout the country. States for which we currently perform EQRO/UR activities include Oregon, Ohio, and Kentucky.

### **An Independent Review Organization**

For 28 years, Permedion has provided objective medical review and quality assurance services to health care organizations throughout the country. This experience includes serving the federal Medicare program, state



Medicaid programs, health plans, benefits administrators, hospitals, and other care providers. In February 2002, Permedion earned accreditation as an external review organization by the American Accreditation HealthCare Commission/ URAC.

Recently, Permedion was certified as an independent review organization (IRO) in Oregon. We also hold IRO

certification in Arizona, Colorado, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Washington, and Wisconsin to review disputed coverage decisions.

### **More Than Just Another Opinion**

Permedion handles each medical review case with care, confidentiality, and consideration of all relevant medical details. Types of review include:

- *medical necessity*
- *experimental/investigational*
- *appropriate treatment or hospitalization*
- *quality of care*
- *ERISA*

### **Permedion's Reviewer Panel**

Permedion identifies, credentials, and maintains its own comprehensive physician reviewer panel, covering all major disciplines of medicine, surgery, radiology, therapeutic services, and diagnostic medicine.

- comprehensive coverage of specialties
- strict conflict of interest protections
- board-certified physicians or licensed health care professionals in active practice
  - current, unencumbered medical license
  - minimum of 5 years clinical experience
  - credentialed, recertified biennially, and trained to assure quality and consistency
- supported by a Permedion staff that includes physicians, nurses, and coding specialists

### **Conflict of Interest Protections**

Each reviewer signs a conflict of interest agreement and cannot review a case that they have previously reviewed or in which they have been involved in any way. They can hold no professional, familial, financial or other relation to any facility, health plan, physician, enrollee/patient, or drug company associated with the case.

***for more information:*** contact Jennifer White (jwhite@permedion.com) or Seana Ferris (sferris@permedion.com) at **800/473-0802**