Provider Network Update
October 2026

Upcoming Interoperability and Prior Authorization Enhancements - Effective January 1, 2027

As part of our commitment to streamlining clinical workflows and supporting high-quality, patient-centered care, McLaren Health Plan is preparing for key technology and operational enhancements driven by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Interoperability and Prior Authorization Final Rule (CMS-0057-F).

Beginning **January 1, 2027**, McLaren Health Plan will implement secure, standardized Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) utilizing Health Level Seven (HL7®) Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR®) standards. These updates are designed to facilitate seamless data exchange between health plans, providers and members, ultimately reducing administrative burden and expediting clinical decision-making across our Medicare Advantage, Medicaid and Commercial lines of business.

Overview of upcoming changes

1. Provider Access API Implementation
Authorized providers will gain secure, automated access to member health data directly within their electronic health record (EHR) systems or preferred clinical workflows.

2. Streamlined Prior Authorization Workflows
The rollout of electronic Prior Authorization (ePA) FHIR APIs will support enhanced electronic exchange of prior authorization requests and clinical documentation, laying the foundation for streamlined response times and improved status transparency.

3. Payer-to-Payer Data Exchange
Enhanced FHIR-based data transfer protocols will allow continuous sharing of historical claims and clinical data when members transition between health plans, ensuring continuity of care.

What providers need to know

- **No immediate action required today:** McLaren Health Plan's technology and IT teams are currently finalizing system configurations, vendor integrations, and compliance testing in preparation for the January 1, 2027 go-live date.
- **Technical integration details:** Additional technical guidance, EHR integration specifications, testing opportunities and portal documentation will available later this year in upcoming communications.
- **Current operations remain unchanged:** Please continue utilizing standard provider portal tools, clearinghouses and established prior authorization submission channels for current member management

If you have any questions, contact McLaren Health Plan Customer Service at 888-327-0761 (TTY: 711) for assistance or visit mclarenhealthplan.org.

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