

April 1, 2024

To: Clinic Manager / Medical Records Director

From: Ma Xiong, MN Community Measurement

Re: Access needed to medical records for one measure in the *2023 Measurement Year Health Care Disparities Report*

MN Community Measurement (MNCM) has contracted with the vendor **Guardian Angel Consulting**, to conduct chart reviews as part of the *2023 Measurement Year Health Care Disparities Report* funded by the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS). DHS is required to conduct this study because of legislative action (Minnesota statute 256B.072).

As a business associate of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota, Medica, and UCare, disclosure of these medical records for review purposes is permissible to **Guardian Angel Consulting** without additional patient consent. This release is also in accordance with the Minnesota Data Practices Act found in Minnesota Statutes, section 13.46, subdivision 2(a)(4) and 2(a)(6). Specifically, **Guardian Angel Consulting** will be conducting chart reviews on patients enrolled in Minnesota Health Care Programs for the Controlling High Blood Pressure measure April through June 2024.

Blue Cross Blue Shield, Medica, and UCare will provide **Guardian Angel Consulting** with a list of members/patients by clinic and **Guardian Angel Consulting** will coordinate the chart audits for this project. Acting as our agent, **Guardian Angel Consulting** will be responsible for reviewing the clinical record, making a copy of the significant finding, and submitting this information to MNCM for data aggregation. Data abstracted from these medical records will be summarized and combined with information from other health plans, attributed to medical groups or clinics, and publicly reported.

This medical record abstraction is required by DHS and must be completed at no charge to MNCM or Guardian Angel Consulting. To expedite the process, please request that healthcare information management vendors (e.g., CIOX) set applicable chart requests to non-billable.

If you have general questions or questions about the fax/mail medical records request you receive please call Guardian Angel Consulting's Data Collection Department 303-646-0731 (9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Central Time) or email FaxTeam@GuardAngelConsult.com. If you have questions regarding an onsite appointment, please contact the Guardian Angel Consulting Reviewer using the contact information written on the fax cover page.

The final report will be posted on our website mncm.org in spring 2025. Thank you for your assistance with this project. If you have questions about the *2023 Measurement Year Health Care Disparities Report*, please direct them to MNCM.

Sincerely,

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