

Jan. 27, 2011

UCare's Disease Management Asthma Program



Effective Jan. 1, 2011, UCare has a partnership with Regency Home HealthCare Services, LLC (“Regency”) to provide UCare’s Disease Management’s Asthma Action ProgramSM to UCare members ages 5 – 50 who have had a recent emergency room (ER) visit or hospitalization for asthma care. This program is available at no cost to the members in the following UCare plans: Medical Assistance, MinnesotaCare, and *UCare Connect*.

Regency’s respiratory therapist (RT) provides asthma services including:

- A home visit, an in-home assessment, and a breathing assessment.
- Periodic phone calls over 12 months to help the member and parent/guardian understand asthma, learn how to manage asthma symptoms, and keep asthma in control.
- Information on asthma medications and delivery device technique.
- Identification of asthma triggers and how to avoid/control them.
- Use of an Asthma Action Plan.
- When to see a health care provider and when to use the ER for asthma care.
- What to do when asthma is NOT in control.

The RT develops an asthma care plan and notifies the member’s primary care provider of any respiratory related concerns. The RT will follow the member’s asthma care and communicate with their health care provider. The RT will act as the member’s asthma case manager and coordinate asthma services, including obtaining orders for respiratory services or member needs, as identified (e.g. home health care, flu shots, etc.).

After the in-home assessment is completed, the RT contacts the member telephonically on a monthly basis for the next three months, then every other month for the next nine months.

Please call the **Disease Management Message Line at 612-676-6539 or 1-866-863-8303** (toll free) for any questions or concerns. Messages are checked regularly during the business day.