



CORRECTIONAL HEALTH CARE

A collaborative approach to accessing cost-effective care

CASE STUDY

Correctional facilities often face unique challenges when providing health care for inmates. The facilities are generally legally obligated to deliver appropriate care while managing the overall cost, which demands creative solutions.

CHALLENGE

A large, urban correctional facility needed to develop a cost-effective plan that delivered appropriate care to inmates inside the facility when resources permitted and outside the facility when a medical condition required specialty or emergent care (hospital, outpatient surgery, etc.)

The facility's strategy was comprised of three primary components:

- engage a correctional health care management company to oversee onsite medical care and other medically-related services;
- adjudicate claims for inpatient care outside the facility using Medicaid fee schedules;
- adjudicate claims for outside professional or outpatient care based on negotiated discounts.

The facility aligned with a credible correctional health care management company. And the facility's staff managed the process for submitting inpatient claims through the Department of Public Welfare.

But a gap remained. The facility needed access to external professional and outpatient medical providers at attractive discounted rates, and the administrative resources to process the claims and pay providers promptly.

SOLUTION

After consulting with the facility, AmeriHealth Administrators recommended a suite of services that gave the facility access to the external medical assets it needed at significant discounts, and the administrative capabilities to handle claims and remit payment to providers in a timely fashion. It was also the perfect complement to services provided by the facility's health care management company.

RESULT

A collaborative approach between the correctional facility, the health care management company, and AmeriHealth Administrators helped the facility achieve its goals of accessing cost-effective care both inside and outside the facility's walls.

Correctional expertise:

- *care coordination with health care management companies;*
- *concurrent review and discharge planning;*
- *claims adjudication with fraud protection;*
- *custom network solutions;*
- *eligibility management;*
- *provider payments.*

