



WELLCARE HEALTH PLANS, INC  
THE WELLCARE GROUP OF COMPANIES

June 30, 2006  
Via Facsimile

### Authorization Process for Diagnostic Laboratory Services

In order to improve access and coordination of services for WellCare members in your service area, effective **July 1, 2006**, you and your practice will be able to refer plan members to **participating** hospital-based facilities (**POS22**) for outpatient diagnostic laboratory testing without obtaining an authorization from the Plan.

Outpatient hospital services billed in conjunction with a lab service will still require prior authorization. In addition, any providers offering a lab service under the CLIA waiver will not require an authorization for diagnostic labs. The following list of diagnostic lab tests will continue to require plan authorization regardless of the facility or vendor providing the laboratory testing services:

- Reproductive**      **89250 – 89356**
- Cytogenetic**      **88230 – 88299**
- Molecular**        **83890 – 83916, 83950**

This change does not impact WellCare’s payments for diagnostic laboratory services. WellCare will continue to monitor program utilization for these services and reserves the right to modify the current list of approved procedures from time to time with 30-days advance notification.

If you need additional information about the authorization process in your area, please visit [georgia.wellcare.com](http://georgia.wellcare.com), or contact our Provider Services Department at **1-866-231-1821**. We look forward to helping you provide the highest quality of health care for Georgia’s Medicaid recipients and Peach Care for Kids members.

Sincerely,

John Esslinger, MD  
Senior Medical Director

211 Perimeter Center  
Parkway  
8<sup>th</sup> floor  
Atlanta, GA 30346

- WELLCARE OF FLORIDA, INC.
- HEALTH EASE OF FLORIDA, INC.
- WELLCARE OF GEORGIA, INC.
- WELLCARE OF NEW YORK, INC.
- FIRST CHOICE HEALTH PLANS OF CONNECTICUT, INC.
- HARMONY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, INC.
- WELLCARE OF LOUISIANA, INC.
- COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH MANAGEMENT, INC.
- HARMONY HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC.
- HARMONY HEALTH PLAN OF ILLINOIS, INC.