

December 9, 2021



California
Rheumatology
Alliance

CRA Membership E-blast

Greetings!

The California Rheumatology Alliance remains dedicated to providing updated news and resources to our membership. We appreciate and encourage any feedback to assist in our service to our members.

If there are any topics you are interested in and would like for us to cover via webinar, please email info@calrheum.org.

Visit our Website



2021

Happy Holidays



WISHING YOU + YOUR
FAMILY A WARM AND COZY
CHRISTMAS SEASON!



Membership Survey

We recently sent out a member survey to learn how the CRA can better serve our members and understand their needs. It's a quick 2-minute survey and would appreciate your feedback!

Click here to take the Membership Survey

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

As we head towards the end of 2021 the CRA advocacy team is already planning for what will be a busy 2022. We were very excited to have AB 347 (Arambula) signed by the Governor this year to make needed changes to the prior authorization and step therapy processes. Along the legislative process, we needed to take out certain provisions around having clinical peers review appeals to step therapy exception requests and language requiring health plans and health insurance companies report data on prior authorization requests and step therapy exception requests. CRA is exploring pursuing these provisions in a bill in 2022.

We have also been having discussions on possibly pursuing two other bills in 2022. One would be to address the problems with accumulator programs where a patient may receive financial assistance to be on a certain medication but is not allowed to apply the financial assistance to the out-of-pocket requirements of their insurance product. The other bill would be to combat the growing issue of white bagging. This is when the health plan or health insurance company or their PBM requires the physician to order intravenous medications from a specialty pharmacy which are then shipped to the physician for administration.

In addition to these possible bills, we also have a number of bills from 2021 that are still eligible to be voted on. The Legislature reconvenes in the first week of January and we will quickly be working on these issues to help you and your patients.

If you have any questions or would like additional information on any of these bills, please contact Tim Madden at madden@mqadvocacy.com.

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