

Physician Information Validation – Explanation and Validation of Directory Information

Name:

The name of the practitioner or facility is confirmed by the MercyCare Health Plans Credentials Specialist during the initial and tri-annual re-credentialing process. This information is accurate and has no limitations.

Gender:

The gender of practitioner, which defines the practitioner as a man or a woman is confirmed by the MercyCare Health Plans Credentials Specialist during the initial and tri-annual re-credentialing process. This information is accurate and has no limitations.

Specialty:

The specialty of a practitioner is the area of medicine where a practitioner is licensed and is highly trained based on the post-graduate training received following graduation from a medical or professional school. This is confirmed by the MercyCare Health Plans Credentials Specialist during the initial credentialing process and re-confirmed during the tri-annual re-credentialing process. This information is accurate, without limitation and is updated monthly.

Hospital Affiliations:

The hospital affiliation of a physician is the hospital(s) where a physician can admit patients. It is self-reported by the applicant and confirmed by the MercyCare Health Plans Credentials Specialist as part of the initial and tri-annual re-credentialing processes. This information is accurate, without limitation and is updated monthly.

Medical Group Affiliations:

The medical group affiliation of practitioners is the medical organization of which a practitioner is a member. It is confirmed by the MercyCare Health Plans Credentials Specialist during the initial and tri-annual re-credentialing processes. This information is accurate and has no limitations.

Board Certification:

The board certification of a practitioner is the recognition by a national specialty certifying organization that the practitioner has obtained the appropriate training and has passed an examination for that specialty and is valid until the expiration date. This certification of a practitioner is confirmed by the MercyCare Health Plans Credentials Specialist during the initial and tri-annual re-credentialing processes through the websites of the American Board of Medical Specialties or the American Osteopathic Association. This information is accurate, without limitation and is updated monthly.

You may personally verify the board certification status of a physician at one of the following websites:
For MD physicians at the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) at <http://www.abms.org>
For DO physicians at the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) at <http://osteopathci.org>

You may personally verify the accreditation status of a hospital at the following website:
<http://www.qualitycheck.org/cosnumer/searchQCR.aspx>

Open/Closed Practice Status – Acceptance of new Patients:

Some practitioners have such a large practice base that they do not accept new patients and “Close” their panel. Both the practitioner and MercyCare Health Plans Administration determines this information. This information is accurate, without limitation and is updated monthly.

Languages Spoken:

MercyCare Health Plans provides information about what languages their practitioners speak so that members can choose practitioners using the language of their choice. MercyCare Health Plans provides this information from what is self-reported by the practitioners during the initial and tri-annual re-credentialing processes. The accuracy of this information is related to the accuracy of the practitioner's self-reporting and is updated monthly.

Office Locations:

The office location(s) of a practitioner is confirmed by the MercyCare Health Plans Credentials Specialist during the initial and tri-annual re-credentialing processes. This information is accurate and has no limitations and is updated monthly.
