



# Provider Alert

## Urgent Provider News



December 14, 2023

Dear Provider,

This week, we are sharing the following provider updates — see below to learn more.

### Availity Essentials Update

Sentara Health Plans (Optima Health) previously communicated our partnership with Availity Essentials beginning on January 1, 2024.

**The features that will be available on January 1, 2024 for Availity Essentials include:**

- **Claims Submission:** Submit claims electronically by completing a claim data entry form for both professional and institutional claims.
- **Payer Space:**
  - Connect to the legacy portals for Optima Health and Group Number VP to conduct transactions not yet available in Availity Essentials, such as authorizations, claims corrections, and reconsiderations.
  - Access helpful resources, such as provider manuals, demographic update forms, value based and quality program information, Prior Authorization Tool (PAL), and more.
  - View our newsletters and other important updates and announcements.

To ensure Sentara Health Plans provides the best user experience, some [Availity Essentials features](#) will be implemented later in 2024.

Please note training sessions for Availity Essentials previously scheduled for January 3, 8, and 10, 2024 have been postponed due to the new implementation schedule. Stay tuned for new training dates.

Sincerely,

Your Optima Health Team