

Edition - July 2026

# Care in Motion— Who Owns Readiness for January 1, 2027?



## Does your care team know what's coming on January 1?

As healthcare organizations prepare for January 1, 2027, much of the focus is on technology, interoperability, and regulatory compliance.

But there is another question healthcare leaders should be asking:

### Who owns readiness across the organization?

CMS-0057-F is driving significant changes related to prior authorization, provider access, patient access, and payer-to-payer data exchange. While systems and APIs are important, successful adoption will depend on whether providers, care managers, utilization teams, quality teams, and operational leaders understand how these changes impact their daily work.

The organizations best positioned for success will not be the ones that only meet the deadline. They will be the ones who prepare their people to act on connected information.



## 1 Minute Insight



The question leaders should be asking today is simple:

**?** If the technology went live tomorrow, would our teams know what to do with it?

### Compliance Does Not Equal Readiness

Many organizations are investing significant time and resources into preparing systems for **January 1, 2027**. That work matters.

But readiness cannot be measured only by completed integration, successful implementations, or API availability.

It exists when care teams:

- ✓ Know where connected information lives
- ✓ Understand how workflows are changing
- ✓ Can confidently use connected data to support
  - Prior Authorization
  - Documentation
  - Care Coordination
  - Member Engagement

## CMS-0057-F Is a Workflow Deadline

CMS-0057-F continues to move the industry toward more connected health information exchange, with major API requirements going into effect primarily on January 1, 2027 includes:

- ✓ **Prior Authorization**
- ✓ **Provider Access**
- ✓ **Patient Access**
- ✓ **Payer-to-Payer Data Exchange**



For healthcare organizations, this is more than a compliance deadline.

### It is a workflow deadline.

Providers and care teams will need to understand how prior authorization information may be requested, shared, reviewed, and communicated in a more digital environment. They will also need to know where information is available, how to access it, and how new processes may affect daily operations.

Preparation cannot wait until the system is live. Provider education, workflow planning, and communication need to happen before January 1, 2027, so teams are ready to use new processes rather than react to them.

## Practical Steps: Five Questions Every Organization Should Be Asking Now

- 1 Who owns operational readiness?**  
Technology teams cannot carry this effort alone. Executive, operational, clinical, utilization management, quality, and care management leaders should all play a role.
- 2 Where will workflows change?**  
Identify how prior authorization, referrals, care coordination, utilization management, documentation, and member engagement processes may be affected.
- 3 Can care teams access actionable information?**  
Data only creates value when teams know where it resides and how to use it during daily operations.
- 4 Have workflow gaps been identified?**  
Now is the time to evaluate manual processes, communication breakdowns, documentation challenges, and delays that create unnecessary administrative burden.
- 5 Are teams being educated before implementation?**  
Short education sessions, workflow guides, FAQs, quick-reference materials, and role-based training can improve adoption and reduce disruption.

## CMS Update

[CMS Takes Bold New Approach to Stewarding Medicaid Demonstration Project Spending | CMS](#)

[CMS Ensures Accrediting Organizations Uphold Trust in Standards and Oversight | CMS](#)

[CMS Proposed Rule Locks in Lower Prices and Fosters Innovation for the Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program | CMS](#)

## Feature Insight

### Readiness Requires More Than Technology

Connected care is often discussed as a technology initiative. In reality, it is an operational initiative supported by technology.

Organizations may successfully implement interoperability requirements, but if care teams are not prepared to use the information, the expected value may never be realized.

The greatest opportunity is not simply exchanging data. It is enabling providers, care managers, utilization teams, quality teams, and operational leaders to make faster, more informed decisions that improve care delivery and organizational performance.

*Technology enables the connection.*

*People create the outcome.*



## What We're Watching

**Operational Readiness Programs**  
Leading organizations are expanding readiness efforts beyond IT and involving clinical, operational, utilization management, quality, and care coordination teams earlier in the planning process.

**Provider And Care Team Experience**  
As interoperability expands, organizations are evaluating how information can reduce administrative burden and support faster decision-making at the point of care.

**Value-Based Performance**  
Organizations that operationalize connected data may be better positioned to improve care coordination, identify risks earlier, close gaps in care, and support population health initiatives.

**Workflow Adoption**  
Healthcare leaders are focusing on how connected information will fit into day-to-day workflows, not just whether technical milestones are met.

## AaNeel Perspective



At AaNeel, we believe healthcare transformation must move beyond technical readiness and into practical execution.

Technology should simplify access to information, reduce administrative burden, support better decisions, and make care coordination easier to manage. As CMS-0057-F, prior authorization modernization, interoperability, and value-based care continue to evolve, organizations must consider how these changes will be introduced to the people using them every day.

The question is not only whether the platform is ready.

It is whether the workflow is clear, the care team is informed, and the member experience has been considered.

## Closing Thought

January 1, 2027, is more than a technology deadline. It is an organizational readiness moment. As systems become more connected, the real measure of success will be whether people, processes, and workflows are prepared to use that connection in a meaningful way. Readiness will not be measured by implementation alone. It will be measured by the ability to turn connected information into confident action.