

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Jeanne M. Lambrew, Ph.D.
Commissioner



Maine Department of Health and Human Services
Office of MaineCare Services - Pharmacy Unit
11 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011
Toll Free: (866) 796-2463; TTY: Dial 711 (Maine Relay)
Fax: (207) 287-8601

05/05/2023

****Attention Pharmacies****
Important Information for MaineCare Members
MaineCare COVID-19 activities effective Monday, May 12, 2023

In response to the termination of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE), the Office of MaineCare Services (OMS), is reversing some edits and system rules in place to support our members during the PHE. This newsletter is to alert pharmacies of changes to Maine point of purchase system (MEPOPS) effective May 12, 2023:

Coverage Changes Effective 5/12/2023

- **EARLY REFILLS**
 - The use of submission clarification code (SCC) 13 as an acceptable override during the PHE will no longer be effective to override a claim at the pharmacy level. Early refill requests can be made by calling the Change Healthcare Pharmacy Helpdesk at **1-888-420-9711**.
 - **Reminder:** MaineCare policy may not pay for early refills for vacation, lost, stolen, or destroyed medications.

- **MAINERX/ COVERAGE FOR THE UNINSURED**
 - MainerX coverage will return to pre-pandemic benefit coverage rules and members will be responsible for 100% co-pay at MaineCare rates.
 - MainerX coverage of COVID-19 at home tests kits and COVID-19 vaccine coverage for uninsured individuals ends on 5/12/2023.
 - Retroactive billing of COVID-19 at home tests kits and COVID-19 vaccine will not be allowed through MEPOPS.
 - If retroactive billing is necessary to accommodate retroactive eligibility granted prior to 5/12/2023, please contact the Change Healthcare Pharmacy Help Desk at **1-888-420-9711**

- **COVID TEST: SPECIMEN COLLECTION**
 - OMS will not cover specimen collection through the pharmacy point of sale and the use of the following National Drug Code (NDC) will be terminated effective 5/12/23.
 - 99999-0992-11 (Emergency Use Product Service Identifier)

Coverages continuing after 5/11/2023 for MaineCare members

- **CO-PAYS**
 - The Department will continue to waive all copays for medications through Section 80 policy.

In accordance with provisions of the American Rescue Plan Act, MaineCare will continue to cover COVID-19 testing, treatment, vaccine, and vaccine administration without cost sharing for MaineCare members through at least September 30, 2024.

- **COVID VACCINE COVERAGE**
 - Pharmacies may continue to submit claims for reimbursement for COVID-19 vaccines and their administration. The reimbursement rate will be set at 100% of the Medicare regional rate. Please note that MaineCare will not reimburse for vaccine administration costs included in other contracts or agreements.

- **COVID TEST COVERAGE**

- COVID-19 at home test kits must be billed through our MEPOPS will continue to be covered with no co-pays.
- Please use the Standing Order NPI number 1023303708 as the prescriber NPI on the claim.
 - The Standing Order providing the authority for licensed pharmacists to prescribe COVID tests to MaineCare members can be found at: *Office of MaineCare Services Home Page> About Us>Projects and Initiatives>COVID-19>Information by Provider Type>Pharmacies>MaineCare Standing Order For COVID-19 At Home Tests and Collection Kits*
- Quantity limits are 8 tests per month.
- Please bill serial tests as a QTY of 2 and non-serial tests as QTY of 1.

For questions, please contact the Change Healthcare Pharmacy Help Desk at **1-888-420-9711**.

MaineCare providers can also send inquiries via email to PBA_helpdesk@changehealthcare.com