

Janet T. Mills
Governor



Jeanne M. Lambrew, Ph.D.
Commissioner

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To: MaineCare Providers
From: Anne-Marie Toderico, PharmD - Director of Pharmacy
Date: 11/20/2023
Re: Pediatric Covid Vaccine Coverage

****Important Update to Pediatric Covid Vaccine Coverage****

Dear Medicaid Provider,

Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that < 5% of Maine children aged 18 and younger are vaccinated with the updated COVID-19 formulation. Pharmacists who meet the conditions listed in the HHS COVID-19 Prep Act and who are not enrolled in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program may submit for reimbursement for both the vaccine and administration or dispensing fee when they provide the vaccine to a MaineCare members aged 3 to 18 years old. This guidance applies only to qualified pharmacies; all other providers must be enrolled in and obtain the COVID-19 vaccine from the VFC program. **This guidance also applies only to the COVID-19 vaccine.** MaineCare encourages pharmacies to enroll in the VFC program to obtain COVID-19 and seasonal influenza vaccines at no cost by contacting the Maine Immunization Program at ImmunizeMe.dhhs@maine.gov.

MaineCare will continue to provide full coverage, without cost sharing, through September 30, 2024, for COVID-19 therapeutics, vaccines, and vaccine administration as required by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021. The ARPA requirement applies only to those persons with current MaineCare coverage. Anyone who is uninsured or who does not have full MaineCare coverage may have access to free or reduced cost therapeutics through patient assistance programs administered by the manufacturers and vaccines through the Bridge Access Program administered by the CDC.

For questions, please contact the Change Healthcare Pharmacy Help Desk at 1-888-420-9711. Maine providers can also send inquiries via email to PBA_helpdesk@changehealthcare.com.

Commented [WJ1]: Is this not hyperlinked because it is a blastfax?

Commented [GG2R1]: Yes.

Commented [WJ3R1]: Thank you

Commented [WJ4]: Is there a reason why this was added?

Commented [GG5R4]: The original document indicated admin fee but pharmacies can be reimbursed for either admin or dispensing fee but not both.

Commented [WJ6R4]: Makes sense so I agree with including it. Thanks

Commented [WJ7]: Should this be bolded?

Commented [GG8R7]: Agree. Changing to bold.

Commented [WJ9R7]: Thank you

Commented [WJ10]: Again hyperlink necessary?

Commented [GG11R10]: No, since faxing.

Commented [WJ12R10]: Thank you

Commented [WJ13]: Another hyperlink question?

Commented [GG14R13]: No, since faxing.

Commented [WJ15R13]: Thanks again

Commented [WJ16]: Hyperlink necessary?

Commented [GG17R16]: No, since faxing.

Commented [WJ18R16]: Thanks