

MCG message

Title: **Blue Cross Complete pharmacy COVID- 19 update**

Posting start date: 4/16/2020

Exemption of Co-Pays for Services to Treat COVID-19

To reduce barriers for beneficiaries seeking medical services, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services will exempt co-pays directly associated with the medically necessary treatment of the illness for beneficiaries with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19. Beneficiaries will not incur, and providers should not collect, co-pays for medically necessary COVID-19 related services delivered either face-to-face or via telemedicine when provided by a qualified Medicaid provider in compliance with current Medicaid policy.

Claims submitted with ICD-10-CM code B97.29 or U07.1 at the header for institutional invoices or on the line for professional invoices will not be subject to co-pays. Practitioners should identify these diagnosis codes on prescriptions written for the treatment of COVID-19 to ensure that pharmacy co-pays can be waived in accordance with this policy.

Pharmacy Co-Pays

MDHHS is waiving co-pays for beneficiaries at point-of-sale for drug products to treat COVID-19. Both Fee-for-Service and managed care pharmacy claims using the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs claim format should be submitted using one of the options below to ensure that prescriptions for the treatment of COVID-19 will not be subject to co-pays at point-of-sale or during post-adjudication cost share invoicing processing for a patient diagnosed with COVID-19.

- **Diagnosis Code:** If the medication being prescribed is for the treatment of COVID-19, the prescriber is to document the appropriate ICD-10-CM code (B97.29 or U07.1) on the prescription order:
 - B97.29 = Coronavirus, as cause of disease classified elsewhere
 - U07.1 = COVID-19
- **Prior authorization type code:** In instances where the prescription does not include a COVID-19 diagnosis code and the pharmacy understands the prescription is for the treatment of COVID-19, the pharmacy shall submit the Prior Authorization Type Code value of "4" (4 = Exemption from Co-pay and/or Co-insurance) in NCPDP Field 461-EU.

Suppression of COVID-19 related service co-pays and pharmacy co-pays will be in effect through the month of April 2020 or until the first of the month following the termination of the Governor's Declaration of a State of Emergency Order (2020-04, COVID-19), whichever is later.



For detail information, visit [Michigan.gov](https://www.michigan.gov)*.

Medicaid pharmacy flexibilities in response to COVID-19 to facilitate early refills and mailing medications

To promote social distancing and prevent medication access issues during the COVID-19 emergency, The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services announced that overrides at either the pharmacy level or the call center shall be used to bypass quantity and days supply utilization edits when appropriate and permitted by Federal or State law.

The overrides will also allow for early refills of prescriptions after at least half of the previous fill has been used. Additionally, the same overrides will continue to be allowed to bypass prescriber network requirements (i.e. NCPDP Reject Code 889: PRESCRIBER NOT ENROLLED IN STATE MEDICAID PROGRAM).

Override Options

- **Pharmacy Level:** Point-of-sale (POS) overrides can be leveraged by using Submission Clarification Code = 13 (Payer-Recognized Emergency/Disaster Assistance Request) in NCPDP field 420-DK.
- **Call Center:** Overrides can be requested by contacting the healthcare payer's Pharmacy Help Desk.
 - For Blue Cross Complete member overrides, call call the PerformRx Provider Services Help Desk at 1-888-989-0057
 - For overrides on Medicaid FFS claims, call 877-624-5204
 - For Medicaid Health Plan contact information, visit www.michigan.gov/MCOPharmacy*

If you have any questions, please contact your Blue Cross Complete provider account executive or Blue Cross Complete Provider Inquiry at 1-888-312-5713.