



## PROVIDER BULLETIN

No. 18-16

DATE: August 29, 2018

TO: All Providers Participating in Nebraska Medicaid Program

FROM: Matthew A. Van Patton, DHA, Director *MVP*  
Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care

BY: Leah Spencer, Program Specialist, Pharmacy  
Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care

RE: Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Coverage

**Please share this information with administrative, clinical, and billing staff.**

This bulletin replaces previous bulletins regarding seasonal influenza vaccine updates. The purpose of the provider bulletin is to clarify the coverage of the influenza vaccine for Medicaid fee-for-service eligible clients. Seasonal influenza vaccine is covered for all Nebraska Medicaid clients following the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendation for children and adults.

To bill for services provided to a Medicaid fee-for-service client the following coverage criteria applies:

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) have again recommended the option of a live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV4; FluMist) for whom it is appropriate. This replaces the previous guidance against the use of LAIV4. [Update: ACIP Recommendations for the Use of Quadrivalent Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine \(LAIV4\) — United States, 2018–19 Influenza Season.](#)
- For clients 18 years old and younger, the vaccine must be given through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program. Nebraska Medicaid only reimburses for vaccines administered to children that are available through the VFC program.
- In the physician's office, providers will bill the vaccine CPT code with an SL modifier, which indicates it is a state-supplied vaccine. Claims billed for VFC-eligible children without the SL modifier will be denied.

This guidance document is advisory in nature but is binding on an agency until amended by such agency. A guidance document does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal operations of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules and regulations made in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this guidance document imposes additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may request a review of the document.

- Nebraska Medicaid is unable to reimburse providers for private stock vaccine for children through age 18 years.
- Some vaccines may require documentation with claims submission to provide evidence of medical necessity for coverage of adults or vaccine obtained through the VFC program. For code coverage, the fee schedule may be found at: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/medicaid/Documents/471-000-540-17.pdf>.
- VFC vaccines are not available at retail pharmacies for fee-for-service members. Children will need to receive their VFC vaccines from a VFC-enrolled provider. Contact information may be found at: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Immunization/Pages/Vfc.aspx>, or 402-471-0301.
- Pharmacies may bill the point of sale vendor for eligible clients 19 and older who are not Medicare eligible and may be administered to adult clients at pharmacies by an authorized licensed pharmacist.
- Influenza vaccine may be administered to homebound clients by home health care providers during a home visit.

For further information contact Leah Spencer, Program Specialist, RN., M.Ed. at (402) 471-9227, or email at [dhhs.MedicaidPharmacyunit@nebraska.gov](mailto:dhhs.MedicaidPharmacyunit@nebraska.gov).

Medicaid Provider Bulletins, such as this one, are posted on the DHHS website at [http://dhhs.ne.gov/medicaid/Pages/med\\_pb\\_index.aspx](http://dhhs.ne.gov/medicaid/Pages/med_pb_index.aspx). The “Recent Web Updates” page will help you monitor changes to the Medicaid pages.

**To bill for services provided to Managed Care clients** please contact the appropriate Heritage Health plan for specific billing instructions.

#### Nebraska Total Care

Provider Services 844-385-2192, Monday –Friday 7:00am to 8:00pm

[www.nebraskatotalcare.com/providers](http://www.nebraskatotalcare.com/providers)

Please consult the Nebraska Total Care Provider Manual for additional information:

<https://tinyurl.com/kfl8djf>

#### UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Nebraska

Provider Services 866-331-2243, Monday –Friday 7:00am to 8:00pm

[www.unitedhealthcareonline.com](http://www.unitedhealthcareonline.com)

Please consult the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Nebraska Provider Manual for additional information:

<http://www.uhccommunityplan.com/health-professionals/ne/Provider-Manual.html>

#### WellCare of Nebraska

Provider Services 855-599-3811, Monday –Friday 7:00am to 8:00pm

[www.wellcare.com/Nebraska](http://www.wellcare.com/Nebraska)

Please consult the WellCare of Nebraska Provider Manual for additional information:

<https://tinyurl.com/k3zgyrq>