

PROVIDER BULLETIN 09-31

September 23, 2009

TO: Physicians, Hospitals and Home Health Agencies participating in the
Nebraska Medicaid Program

FROM: Vivianne M. Chaumont, Director 
Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care

BY: Louise Tollefson, R.N. Program Specialist 

RE: **H1N1 INFLUENZA VACCINE-2009/2010 UPDATE**

**PLEASE SHARE WITH ALL ADMINISTRATIVE, CLINICAL AND BILLING
STAFF**

This memo will address Nebraska Medicaid information for coverage of the administration of the H1N1 vaccine for Medicaid eligible persons.

The H1N1 influenza vaccine will be distributed by the federal government to providers across the country, free of charge this year. The actual distribution date is undetermined at this time. However, it is anticipated to be available shortly after the first of October. The vaccine itself will be provided at no cost, but the providers (physician's offices and public health clinics) may bill for the cost of administration for Medicaid eligible individuals using HCPC code G9141.

There are priority groups who should receive the vaccine first due to the potential for complications. The individuals with greater risk for complications are:

- Pregnant women
- Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months of age
- Health Care and Emergency Medical System personnel
- All individuals 6 months thru 24 years of age
- Ages 25-64 with health conditions associated with higher rates of medical complications, e.g. asthma, diabetes, autoimmune diseases and morbid obesity
- Those greater than 65 years of age are not at a greater risk of complications generally, but may have other factors for increased risk, e.g. diabetes, etc.

As with any other service, Medicaid is the payer of last resort. When applicable, Medicare or other third party payers must be billed first and the EOB from that payer is to be attached to a Medicaid claim form.

Medicaid payment can only be made to a Medicaid enrolled provider who has administered this vaccine. Medicaid does not cover mass immunizations held at community centers, stores and pharmacies.

H1N1 influenza vaccine may be administered by home health care providers during the course of an already scheduled visit.

Questions regarding this bulletin should be directed to Louise Tollefson at 402-471-9366 or Louise.Tollefson@nebraska.gov