

**To:** All Providers Participating in Nebraska Medicaid Program  
**From:** Kevin Bagley, Director  
**Date:** January 21, 2022  
**Re:** Changes to Tobacco Cessation Program

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This provider bulletin is being issued to notify Medicaid providers of changes to Nebraska Medicaid's tobacco cessation program. Medicaid's last update on this topic can be found in Provider Bulletin 10-48. Effective December 26, 2021, Provider Bulletin 10-48 is completely replaced going forward by this provider bulletin.

The tobacco cessation program covers certain counseling and products to help beneficiaries voluntarily quit tobacco. Common products include nicotine gum, nicotine inhaler, nicotine lozenge, nicotine nasal spray, nicotine patch, bupropion, and varenicline.

**Effective December 26, 2021, beneficiaries are no longer required to enroll in the Nebraska Tobacco Free Quitline to be able to receive tobacco cessation products; enrollment is still encouraged, but it is no longer required.**

Other requirements to receive cessation products remain in effect. These requirements include:

- A beneficiary must be 18 years of age or older
- Products must be FDA-approved and used according to FDA dosing and age guidelines
- A prescription is required

Even though a beneficiary can now receive certain products without enrolling in the Quitline, tobacco cessation counseling visits continue to be covered under intermediate (CPT 99406) or intensive tobacco cessation (99407) codes, as appropriate. A maximum of eight counseling sessions per calendar year is allowed.

The Nebraska Tobacco Quitline offers a broad range of cessation support resources for patients who want to quit tobacco. Combined with ongoing monitoring, support, and treatment, referring beneficiaries to a quitline or other cessation resource can improve their chances of quitting. Information may be found at: [www.QuitNow.ne.gov](http://www.QuitNow.ne.gov) or call 1-800-QUIT-NOW (784-8669).

If you have questions regarding this bulletin, please contact via email at: [DHHS.MedicaidPharmacyUnit@Nebraska.gov](mailto:DHHS.MedicaidPharmacyUnit@Nebraska.gov)

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