



Date: October 19, 2018
To: Medicaid and CHIP Managed Care Organizations
From: Texas Vendor Drug Program
Subject: N-18-010: Update to 2018 Influenza Vaccine Guidance

HHSC has expanded the age range for optional coverage of the flu vaccine through the pharmacy benefit as of Oct. 19. Health plans have the option to allow pharmacies to bill for flu vaccines provided to people age seven and older in a pharmacy setting.

If the health plan decides to pay pharmacy claims for influenza vaccines, health plan staff must:

- Ensure the influenza vaccine is a Medicaid-covered benefit
- Submit the value "7" in the "Submission Clarification Code" field (420-DK) to designate the drug as non-formulary/medically necessary on the encounter
- Submit the value "Q" (Drug not on Formulary) in the "Formulary Status" field (field 257)
- Submit the value "MA" in the "Professional Service Code" field (440-E5) to designate the service on the encounter

Information on the procedure codes payable and the Medicaid influenza vaccine policy is found in sections 9.2.36 and 9.2.37 within the Texas Medicaid Provider Procedure Manual. This manual is updated monthly with the most-recent publication available online at www.tmhp.com/Pages/Medicaid/Medicaid_Publications_Provider_manual.aspx.

A separate "Flu Vaccine NDC/Procedure Code Crosswalk" will not be provided. Health plan staff, prescribing providers, clients, or any other interested party, may submit a proposal for changes to influenza vaccine coverage by completing the [Topic Nomination Form](#) (MS Word) and

submitting both it and supporting documentation to MedicaidBenefitRequest@hsc.state.tx.us. General questions regarding current influenza vaccine coverage may be sent MCDMedicalBenefitsPolicyComment@hsc.state.tx.us.