

## Memorandum

**To:** All Oregon Health Plan providers and coordinated care organizations

**From:** Emma Sandoe, PhD, MPH, State Medicaid Director

**Date:** Sept. 17, 2025

**Subject:** Oregon Health Plan adoption of the West Coast Health Alliance guidance on respiratory vaccines

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Effective immediately, Oregon Health Authority will adopt the [West Coast Health Alliance \(WCHA\) 2025-2026 Respiratory Virus Season Immunization Recommendations](#) for Oregon Health Plan (OHP) vaccine coverage. The Oregon Immunization Program (OIP) has adopted the WCHA recommendations to:

- Ensure consistency with regional best practices and
- Support OHP and OIP's shared goal of improving access to preventive care for all Oregonians.

### Key updates:

#### **COVID-19 vaccine access without prescription begins Sept. 18, 2025**

All patients will be able to receive the COVID-19 vaccine without a prescription through OHP providers and pharmacies. This change is intended to streamline vaccine delivery and reduce barriers to timely immunization.

#### **Pediatric vaccine access**

For children aged 7 years and under, providers should continue to coordinate most vaccinations through primary care and other appropriate clinical channels. Pharmacies can immunize eligible individuals 6 months of age and older for influenza, and 7 years of age and older for all other vaccines, including COVID-19 and RSV.

## What should you do?

- Inform your staff and patients about these changes. If they have additional questions, refer them to the [WCHA Frequently Asked Questions for the Public](#).
- Ensure scheduling systems and workflows are updated to reflect the new access guidelines.
- Continue to follow all reporting requirements for administered vaccines.

## Questions?

If you have questions, please contact Medicaid Division staff at [Medicaid.Programs@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:Medicaid.Programs@odhsoha.oregon.gov).

Thank you for your continued commitment to protecting the health of OHP members and the broader community.