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To: Oregon Health Plan (OHP) providers

From: Nathan Roberts, Traditional Programs manager
Medicaid Programs

Subject: Add-on fee for cost of interpreter services is extended for fee-for-service payment

Under COVID-19 Disaster Relief authority [as approved by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services \(CMS\)](#), the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) will continue to pay [an administrative add-on fee for interpreter services at fee-for-service \(FFS\) health care visits](#) for the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency. OHA is seeking CMS approval to make this fee permanent.

Why is this happening?

OHA is committed to ensuring that its programs and activities comply with civil rights laws such as ORS 659A.403, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, as established in OHA's [nondiscrimination policy and procedures for investigating reports of discrimination](#).

Providers and CCOs must ensure all services preserve meaningful access to language services at all health care visits, including telehealth visits. This change will support the costs providers incur for ensuring patient access to interpreters as required by federal and state law for limited English proficient (LEP), non-English proficient (NEP), and Deaf or hard of hearing members.

What should you do?

Please be sure to address language access needs of LEP, NEP and Deaf or hard of hearing members as outlined in the Health Equity section of [the Oregon Medicaid COVID-19 Provider Guide](#). To bill for the add-on fee:

- Use CDT code D9990 for dental visits, and
- Use HCPCS code T1013 for other visits.

The administrative add-on rate is \$60 per date of service.

Keep documentation in the medical record that indicates use of qualified or certified health care interpreters for any potential audit of services billed.

Questions?

If you have any questions about this announcement, contact Provider Services 800-336-6016 or email dmap.providerservices@dhsoha.state.or.us.

Thank you for your continued support of the Oregon Health Plan and the services you provide to our members.