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Date: November 3, 2021

To: Coordinated care organizations (CCOs)

From: Dave Inbody, CCO Operations Manager

Medicaid Programs

Subject: Oregon Health Plan (OHP) coverage of children's COVID-19 and flu immunizations at OHP-

enrolled pharmacies

To increase the number of places OHP-eligible children and families can go to access flu and COVID-19 immunizations, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) will not require Vaccines for Children (VFC) program enrollment for:

■ Any OHP provider administering children's COVID-19 immunizations; or

- Any OHP-enrolled pharmacies providing children's flu immunizations, for the duration of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE). Pharmacies will need to enroll in the VFC program to provide any other children's immunizations.
- OHA has updated <u>Oregon Administrative Rule 410-141-3510</u> to waive CCO credentialing requirements for COVID-19 vaccine providers who also administer flu vaccines.

On October 22, OHA also issued <u>an order</u> that permits Oregon pharmacists to administer COVID-19 vaccines (once authorized) and flu vaccines to children down to age 3.OHA will also update its vaccination <u>pharmacy protocols</u> for this new age group, once the pediatric vaccine is approved.

OHA has a "no wrong door" policy for COVID-19 immunizations. OHA is extending this policy to include pharmacies offering flu vaccines to OHP-eligible children. This means pharmacies who are not contracted with CCOs may bill OHA directly.

What should you do?

CCOs should make the necessary arrangement to reimburse pharmacies for flu and COVID-19 immunizations provided to OHP-eligible children. CCOs may reimburse pharmacies for flu immunizations for dates of service on and after 10/20/2021, and for COVID-19 immunizations as soon as FDA-authorized products are available. CCO reimbursement should be as follows.

- For COVID-19 vaccines, reimburse for administration only since the is serum is distributed to providers at no cost.
- For flu vaccine outside of the VFC program, reimburse for both the administration and the serum.
- Reimburse VFC-enrolled providers for administration only since VFC vaccines are distributed at no cost to providers.

Questions?

If you have questions, please contact your CCO Account Representative.

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