



MINUTES

State Medical Assistance & Services Advisory Council

Virtual Meeting

January 26, 2022: 6:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.

Virtual Meeting via Google: <https://meet.google.com/bxb-dntm-wsg>

Call-In Number: 1-530-500-4073 Pin: 740412416#

1. 6:00 Call to Order

Kimberley Jackson

2. Roll Call: MEDICAL ASSISTANCE & SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Members Present:

- Jill Atkinson
- Kimberley Jackson
- Christopher Newman
- Heather Gitchell
- Peter McNally
- Josina Romero O'Connell
- Diane Ream
- Jim Leonard, HCPF Pharmacy team, **Presenter**
- Margaret Tomcho
- Ron Devries
- Jasmine White
- Leah Schulz
- Erika Alexander

Department Field Representatives:

- Pita Cano-Wilson
- Kyle Garrity
- Kevin Innarelli
- Martina Schmidt

Guest:

- Jordan Bendinelli

3. Introductions

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4. Update on HB21-1275 (re: long-acting injectable medications)

Jim Leonard, HCPF Pharmacy Unit

Overall, this bill allows the Department to do three things:

- To reimburse pharmacists for all services that are allowed in Part 6 of Article 280 of Title 12 and
- To allow pharmacists to dispense, administer and be reimbursed for long acting injectables for both mental illness and substance use disorders through the pharmacy or medical benefit.
- To allow costs associated with clinical pharmacist services in an FQHC to be considered allowable costs for the purposes of FQHC cost reporting

Clinical Services under Part 6 of Article 280 of Title 12

- Clinical services under Statewide Protocol – allowing for pharmacist prescribing
 - Hormonal Contraception
 - Smoking Cessation
 - HIV PrEP and PEP
- Clinical services under Collaborative Practice Agreements
 - Provide clinical services and prescribing for Disease management and prevention services
 - Requires an agreement between a Colorado licensed prescriber and a pharmacy or pharmacist

Stakeholder Input

- The Department worked very closely with the bill sponsors and advocates while developing the rule language, covered professional service codes and system changes.
- In addition, the Department created a Pharmacist Services Billing Manual related to these changes which was disseminated to stakeholders upon successful passage of the Emergency MSB rule.
- The Pharmacist Services Billing Manual can be found at:
<https://hcpf.colorado.gov/pharm-serv>

Important Dates

- Bill effective date: September 6, 2021
- Emergency MSB Rule approval: January 14, 2022

Takeaways

- Pharmacists can now be reimbursed through Health First Colorado for clinical services under their scope of practice.
- Billing pharmacists must verify and document that they meet the State Board requirements to provide the clinical service billed.
- Pharmacists can administer long-acting injectables (LAIs) to treat mental health disorder or substance use disorder when ordered
- Pharmacists can bill Health First Colorado for LAIs (to treat MH or SUD) through the pharmacy benefit even if the drug is to be given in the Clinic
- FQHC costs relating to clinical pharmacist services can now be included in the FQHC cost reports

5. New Provider Participation Agreement

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When Providers enroll in Health First Colorado or CHP+, there is a Provider Participation Agreement which is federally required to be put in place. When providers submit a new application or re-validation (required every 5 years), they have to read, agree and sign this agreement.

We have worked with the Attorney's General Office and the Legal Division to revise the PPA (Provider Participation Agreement).

After negotiations, we are soon to have a new PPA, hopefully around the end of February.

The newly revised PPA will include:

- Adding definitions
- Adding a clause about 3rd party liability
- Requirement for providers to always submit claims to primary insurance companies or Medicare prior to submitting to Medicaid
- Balance billing
- ADA requirement for non-discrimination
- Provisions related to electronic submission of claims
- Privacy and confidentiality provisions
- New and revised sections regarding the term of the agreement
- Record retention statute

Once an agreement is reached, it will be posted on our website. There's also no need to re-sign but if one does not agree to the revised PPA, they will need to contact the Legal team concerning questions.



6. New COVID Test Coverage

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At-Home Over-The-Counter COVID-19 Test Coverage

Effective January 15, 2022, Health First Colorado covers At-Home Over-The-Counter COVID-19 tests through the Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics &

Supplies (DME POS) benefit. DMEPOS providers should use HCPCS procedure code **H399 with modifier UI** to bill for these products.

Claims billed for tests may begin suspending for EOB 0000

- "This claim service is pending for program review." while the Colorado interchange is being updated. Claims will be released from suspense once the update is complete. More information will be provided in future communications.

Please note:

- Member co-pays are not required.
- Prior Authorization is not required.
- Test coverage is limited to 15 units of service per month per member.
- Span-billing is permitted for monthly allowance. See the [DMEPOS billing manual](#) for details.
- One unit of service is equal to one individual test. If a package includes two tests, the provider should bill for two units of service.
- Providers must bill Health First Colorado the same amount as the retail price on a per-test basis. For example, if the provider sells a two-test pack for \$14, they would bill two units of service at \$7 each to Health First Colorado.
- A prescription is necessary to receive reimbursement, as is required for all DMEPOS. However, the [Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act](#) allows for pharmacists to order these tests.
- Providers must use the NPI of the ordering provider such as the pharmacist, on all claims.
- All claims for tests should be billed to Gainwell Technologies fee-for-service (FFS), including for members enrolled in the Denver Health and Rocky Mountain Health Plan managed care networks.

Contact Haylee Rodgers at Haylee.Rodgers@state.co.us with questions.

7. Introduction of New Provider Field Reps

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8. Round Robin

Chris Newman

9. Adjournment

Next Meeting will be held on March 23rd from 6pm-7:30pm

Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request for persons with disabilities. Please notify the Board Coordinator at 303-866-5965 or Christel.Thorns@state.co.us or the 504/ADA Coordinator hcpf504ada@state.co.us at least one week prior to the meeting to make arrangements.