



Bulletin

To: HPM Providers

From: HPM Pharmacy Department

Bulletin #: 09-0930

Date: September 30, 2009

Re: Novel H1N1 Vaccine

Health Plan of Michigan will provide coverage and reimbursement for administration of the Novel H1N1 vaccine to its members. The 2009 Influenza A (H1N1) monovalent vaccine will be covered when given according to Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations. These recommendations can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr58e0821a1.htm>.

WHO SHOULD RECEIVE THE VACCINE

- Pregnant women (***should not receive intranasal vaccine preparation***)
- Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than six months of age
- Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel
- All individuals six months through 24 years of age
- Individuals 25 years of age through 64 years of age who have health conditions associated with a higher risk of medical complications resulting in influenza.

Seasonal flu vaccine will not likely protect against the Novel H1N1 strain. Those individuals at risk should receive both vaccinations (seasonal & H1N1). **All providers are required to use the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MICR) to track and document administration and dispensing of 2009 Influenza H1N1 flu vaccine and antiviral medications.**

Administration of Seasonal & H1N1 Vaccines

Both seasonal and 2009 H1N1 vaccines are available as injectable (inactivated) and intranasal (live attenuated (LAIV)) formulations. Current recommendations are:

- Injectable Seasonal and Injectable H1N1 vaccines can be given at the same time (before, after, or at the same visit)
- Injectable Seasonal and *Intranasal* H1N1 vaccines can be given at the same time
- *Intranasal* Seasonal and Injectable H1N1 vaccines can be give at the same time
- *Intranasal* Season and *Intranasal* H1N1 vaccine administration should be separated by a minimum of four (4) weeks.

HOW TO BILL

The 2009 influenza A (H1N1) monovalent vaccine will be provided for free by the federal government; therefore, it will be made available to Medicaid providers at NO COST. Although Medicaid will not reimburse for the free vaccine, there will be reimbursement for administration of the vaccine. **Providers who administer the vaccine must be enrolled in the 2009 Influenza H1N1 Vaccine program.** Information on enrollment can be found at www.michigan.gov/flu.

HCPCS PROCEDURE CODES COVERED

G9141 - Influenza A (H1N1) immunization administration
G9142 - Influenza A (H1N1) vaccine, any route of administration
90470 - H1N1 immunization administration (intramuscular, intranasal), including counseling when performed

CPT CODE COVERED

90663 - Influenza virus vaccine, pandemic formulation

It is anticipated that Michigan County Health Departments will receive approximately 97,000 doses of intranasal vaccine (Live, attenuated- LAIV) at the end of September or early October. This formulation is only licensed for ages 2 years to 49 years of age, and should not be administered to pregnant women. Additional doses of injectable vaccine (inactivated) are expected to be available by end of October. Please contact your local health department for details on product distribution.

ANTIVIRAL MEDICATION TREATMENT

Oseltamivir (Tamiflu®) and zanamivir (Relenza®) are the two recommended influenza antiviral drugs for treatment of the H1N1 influenza symptoms at this time. Health Plan of Michigan provides for unrestricted coverage of all dosage forms of these products. These products work best when administered within 48 hours of onset of symptoms.

CDC Recommendations for antiviral treatment of H1N1 are:

- Priority use in those patients who are very sick (hospitalized)
- Pregnant women
- Young children
- Patients 65 years of age and older
- Patients with chronic health conditions

It is anticipated that shortages of these products will occur during the influenza season. Tamiflu® Oral Suspension is already in short supply. Local pharmacists have received recommendations from the CDC on how to compound a liquid dosage form from available oral capsules. Please check with your local pharmacist for availability and dosing.