



May 24, 2013

Medical Assistance Letter (MAL) No. 584

TO: Eligible Pharmacy Providers
Directors, County Departments of Job and Family Services

FROM: John B. McCarthy, Medicaid Director

SUBJECT: Changes to Diabetic Supply Coverage and Billing

Summary

This medical assistance letter outlines changes to coverage and billing of diabetic supplies for the Ohio Medicaid program.

Policy Guidance

Ohio Administrative Code rule 5101:3-9-02, "Pharmacy services: medical supplies and durable medical equipment," sets forth coverage and billing of certain medical supplies by pharmacy providers.

Effective July 1, 2013, Ohio Medicaid has chosen Abbott Diabetes Care and Nipro Diagnostics as preferred manufacturers of diabetic blood testing supplies. Supplies from other manufacturers will be denied unless there is medical necessity for a non-preferred brand, determined through the prescriber prior authorization process.

The preferred products are:

Blood Glucose Monitor	Corresponding Test Strips
FreeStyle Freedom Lite Meter	FreeStyle Lite glucose test strips
FreeStyle InsuLinx Meter	FreeStyle InsuLinx glucose test strips
FreeStyle Lite Meter	FreeStyle Lite glucose test strips
Precision Xtra Meter	Precision Xtra glucose test strips Precision Xtra Beta ketone test strips
TRUEresult Meter	TRUEtest glucose test strips
TRUEtrack Meter	TRUEtrack glucose test strips

Beginning June 1, 2013, messages will be sent back to pharmacies through the point-of-sale system when supplies that will become "non-preferred" are dispensed. This will give pharmacies an opportunity to determine whether a new prescription will be needed to change the patient to a preferred product for the next dispensing.

Reimbursement for diabetic testing and injection supplies is changing from the current fee schedule rates to wholesale acquisition cost (WAC) + 7%, the same pricing methodology as most brand name drugs. The maximum quantity of glucose test strips that can be dispensed per month without prior authorization is changing to 100.

Access to Rules and Related Material

The main ODJFS web page includes links to valuable information about its services and programs; the address is <http://www.jfs.ohio.gov>. The web page of the Office of Medical Assistance (Medicaid) may be accessed through the ODJFS main page or directly at <http://www.jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/>.

ODJFS maintains an "electronic manuals" web page of the department's rules, manuals, transmittal letters, forms, and handbooks. The web address for this "eManuals" web page is <http://emanuals.odjfs.state.oh.us/emanuals/>.

From the "eManuals" page, providers may view documents online by following these steps:

- (1) Select the 'Ohio Health Plans - Provider' folder.
- (2) Select the appropriate service provider type or handbook.
- (3) Select the desired document type.
- (4) Select the desired item from the 'Table of Contents' pull-down menu.

The Legal/Policy Central – Calendar site, <http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/lpc/calendar/>, is a quick reference for finding documents that have recently been published. This site also provides a link to a listing of ODJFS manual transmittal letters, <http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/lpc/mt/>. The listing is categorized by letter number and subject, and a link is provided to each easy-print (PDF) document.

To receive automatic electronic notification when new Medicaid transmittal letters are published, sign up for the ODJFS e-mail subscription service at <http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/subscribe/>.

Additional Information

Pharmacies may contact the Technical Help Desk at Xerox for assistance:

Phone: 1-877-518-1545

Additional information about the Ohio Medicaid pharmacy program is available online:

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/bhpp/meddrug.stm>