

## **Notice to Pharmacies**

On June 1, 2016 the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued an informational bulletin about Medicaid benefits available for the prevention, detection, and response to the Zika virus. Zika can cause severe birth defects in unborn children whose mothers are infected while pregnant. Because there is not a vaccine to prevent the disease or medicine to treat it, it is important for women to use repellent to protect themselves and unborn babies.

Starting August 9, 2016, Texas will cover select mosquito repellents under the Medicaid Fee For Service (FFS) and managed care organizations (MCO), Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) and Healthy Texas Women programs. Neither the Kidney Health Care (KHC) nor Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Services programs will cover these products. The following information describes the benefit details, including eligibility, benefit specifics, and claims processing and information about Zika virus.

### **Mosquito Repellent Benefit Description**

Covered population:

- Any female aged 10 - 45 years
- Pregnant women of any age

Quantity:

- Coverage of mosquito repellents will be limited to two (2) can/bottles per calendar month: only one (1) can/bottle may be dispensed per fill, with one (1) optional refill available per calendar month

Benefit duration:

- The mosquito repellent benefit is available through **October 31, 2016**.
  - This allows for the dispensing of mosquito repellent only when the mosquitoes that carry the Zika virus are expected to be active.

Mosquito repellent prescriptions will not count against clients' monthly three (3) prescription limit. (FFS only).

Client responsibility

- Approved claims for eligible Medicaid clients will be provided at no cost to the client. CHIP clients may be subject to a copay depending upon family income. Any potential copays should not exceed the cost of the product.

### **Claims Processing**

Covered Products\*

Billing NDC	Product Name	Product UPC	Package Size	Unit of Measure	Active Ingredient
11423000338	Repel Sportsmen Max 40% spray	011423003387	184	GM	DEET
11423094133	Repel Sportsmen Dry 25% spray	011423941337	113	GM	DEET
11423094137	Repel Sportsmen 25% spray	011423941375	184	GM	DEET
11423094139	Repel Hunter's 25% spray	011423941399	184	GM	DEET

46500001842	Off Deep Woods 25% spray	046500018428	170	GM	DEET
46500071764	Off Deep Woods Dry 25% spray	046500717642	113	GM	DEET
71121096280	Cutter Backwoods 25% spray	071121962805	170	GM	DEET
71121096283	Cutter Backwoods 25% spray	071121962836	311	GM	DEET
71121096435	Cutter Backwoods Dry 25% spray	071121964359	113	GM	DEET
44224006878	Natrapel 20% spray	044224068781	177	ML	Picaridin
50716000544	Insect Repellent 20% spray (Sawyer)	050716005448	118	ML	Picaridin

\*As of August 9, 2016. The list of covered products may change as additional mosquito repellents are added to formulary

#### Reimbursement

- The reimbursement to pharmacies will be the usual and customary price to the general public or up to a maximum of \$6.50 per can/bottle of mosquito repellent (inclusive of product cost and dispensing fee); total calendar month maximum of \$13.00.
- These products will not be eligible for payment of a delivery fee or incentive fee.
- Pharmacies will be required to submit their usual and customary (U&C) cost for the items.

#### Product NDC submission

- UPCs have been converted to NDCs for submission of claims. This was accomplished by converting the 12 digit UPC to an 11 digit NDC. Please refer to the Covered Products table for NDCs for submission.
- *Note: Mosquito repellent will be treated as a generic medication and pharmacies have the authority to fill the prescription with any covered product, unless the prescriber has stated, "Do not Substitute", to specify the active ingredient (not the manufacturer).*

#### Unit of Measure

- Pharmacies should submit the NCPDP billing unit of measure standard when processing claims. For example, a 170 gram bottle should be submitted with a quantity of 170.

#### Days' Supply

- Pharmacies are recommended to submit a 15 day supply. A can of repellent is expected to last 15 days or greater. Pharmacies are encouraged to submit days' supply of 15 days to prevent refill to soon rejections.

#### Pregnant Clients Less Than 10 or Greater Than 45 Years of Age

- For pregnant clients under the age of 10 or over the age of 45, the state or MCO may have to perform a manual claim override. For these clients, pharmacies should call the client's MCO provider line or the Pharmacy Benefits Access Help Desk (1-800-435-4165) for FFS clients.

## **What is Zika virus?**

Zika virus is primarily spread to people through mosquito bites, however spread of the virus through sexual contact has been documented, and other modes of transmission are being researched. The virus can also spread from mother to fetus during pregnancy.

Most people infected with the virus have mild or no symptoms. For those who do develop symptoms, illness is generally mild and typically lasts a few days to a week. The most common symptoms of Zika virus are fever, rash, joint pain, and conjunctivitis (red eyes). Although symptoms may be mild and not last long, the virus may stay in a person's system for weeks to months.

Although most people are not at risk of serious complications from Zika virus, prevention of Zika virus is especially important in pregnant women or women planning to become pregnant. Infection during pregnancy can cause certain birth defects, including microcephaly. Microcephaly is a condition where a baby's head is much smaller than expected, and may result in incomplete brain development.

## **How can Zika virus be prevented?**

- Prevent mosquito bites
  - Use mosquito repellent
  - Wear long sleeved shirts and long pants
  - Stay in places with air conditioning or window and door screens
  - Remove standing water around your home
- Pregnant women should not travel to areas with Zika
- If you are pregnant and have a male partner who lives in or has traveled to an area with Zika, do not have sex, or use condoms the right way, every time, during your pregnancy.

## **What other benefits are available from Texas Medicaid in response to Zika Virus?**

Oral contraceptives and long acting reversible contraceptives help prevent pregnancy. These are available as a Texas Medicaid benefit to clients. Other covered benefits include family planning services, diagnostic testing, targeted case management, physical therapy, long term services and support, acetaminophen and oral electrolytes for Zika virus symptoms, and potential coverage for additional ultrasounds for pregnant women.

## **Where can I find more information?**

The websites below contain valuable, up to date information about Zika virus, including printable fliers and handouts that may be ordered at no cost to health care providers.

Department of State Health Services: [www.TexasZika.org](http://www.TexasZika.org)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [www.cdc.gov/zika/](http://www.cdc.gov/zika/)