



## PHARMACY ALERT

### Formulary Coverage Update for Flu Vaccines 2019– 2020

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**To:** Alliance Contracted Pharmacies  
**From:** Alliance Pharmacy Services Department  
**Date:** September 19, 2019  
**Subject:** Formulary Coverage Update for Flu Vaccines  
**Products:** Medi-Cal, Group Care

#### **SUMMARY:**

**Effective Tuesday, September 3, 2019**, Alameda Alliance for Health (Alliance) will reimburse pharmacies for administering the Alliance formulary injectable seasonal flu vaccine, to all Alliance Medi-Cal members between the ages of 19 to 64 years old. For Alliance Group Care members, vaccines are reimbursed for members of any age in compliance with the vaccine package insert. **Both Alliance Medi-Cal and Alliance Group Care members have no copay for the flu vaccine.** Please note our formulary flu vaccine list is posted on our website.

For Medi-Cal members under 19 years of age, flu vaccines should be received from their local provider (through the Vaccines for Children [VFC] program). If a child who is covered by Medi-Cal comes to a retail pharmacy seeking a flu shot before their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday, they should be redirected to their primary care provider. Alliance Group Care members that are under the age of 19 may receive a flu vaccine from any contracted retail pharmacy that administers flu vaccines.

**For Medi-Cal members 65 years of age and older, flu vaccines should be covered through Medicare Part B. If the Medi-Cal member does not have Part B coverage, please call the Alliance Pharmacy Services Department before processing the related claim.**

**Please Note: High-Dose (HD) flu vaccines are not covered by the Alliance.** Exception requests should be submitted through our standard prior authorization process, which can be found at: [www.alamedaalliance.org/providers/pharmacy-drug-benefits/pharmacy-exception-process](http://www.alamedaalliance.org/providers/pharmacy-drug-benefits/pharmacy-exception-process)

Alliance contracted pharmacy providers must submit the following fields to process Flu Vaccine claims and receive reimbursement:

- **Submit any amount greater than “0.00” in the Incentive Amount Submitted Field (NCPDP field number 438-E3)**
- **Submit “MA” for Medication Administered in the Professional Service Field in the DUR/PPS segment (NCPDP field number 440-E5)**

**Referring Members:** Pharmacies not administering the flu vaccine should refer Alliance members to their provider or another pharmacy for processing and administration of the flu vaccine, as appropriate.

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**Questions?** Please call Alliance Pharmacy Services Department  
Monday – Friday, 8 am – 5 pm  
Phone Number: **1.510.747.4541**  
[www.alamedaalliance.org](http://www.alamedaalliance.org)