

8520 Tech Way, Suite 200 San Diego, CA 92123 1-858-499-8300



# Provider Alert

To: Sharp Health Plan Providers and Provider Office Staff

From: Sharp Health Plan
Date: April 21, 2021

Subject: Covered Medicare Part B and Part D Vaccine Services for Sharp Health Plan

Members

#### Attention Provider Partner:

This notice has important information about Medicare Part B and Part D vaccine coverage for Sharp Health Plan Medicare members. Sharp Health Plan has recently received member grievances about the cost-share of vaccines such as Shingrix. We are sending this notice to provide further clarification around Part B and Part D vaccine coverage. Note: Cost-sharing includes but is not limited to copays, deductibles and coinsurance.

#### **Covered Medicare Part B Vaccine Services**

- Pneumococcal vaccine
- Influenza vaccine
- Hepatitis B vaccine if member is at high or intermediate risk of getting hepatitis B
- Other vaccines if member is at risk and meets Part B coverage rules

There is no coinsurance, copay or deductible for Medicare members with Part B coverage to receive the pneumococcal, influenza and hepatitis B vaccines. We may require prior authorization for certain vaccines. To confirm if prior authorization is needed, please log in to your Sharp Connect provider portal account at <a href="mailto:sharphealthplan.com/login">sharphealthplan.com/login</a> and refer to the prior authorization guidelines.

## **Covered Medicare Part D Vaccine Services**

- Shingles vaccine
- Meningococcal vaccine
- Td/Tdap vaccine
- Other commercially available vaccines not covered under Part B

Part D coverage for vaccines is made of: (1) the cost of the vaccine and (2) the cost of administering the vaccine.

### Our Recommendation for Providers

It is preferred that Medicare members bring the vaccine prescription to a network pharmacy and have it administered at the same pharmacy. Members pay the pharmacy the Part D vaccine copay (which includes the administration fee) and Sharp Health Plan pays the remainder of the costs.



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As an alternative, members may also get their vaccines at their provider's office. However, please note that this option requires members to pay for the vaccine and administration costs upfront, and then submit a reimbursement request to Sharp Health Plan.

Thank you for your continued partnership in providing the best care possible to our members. If you have any questions, please contact us at <u>provider.relations@sharp.com</u> or 1-858-499-8330. We are available to assist you on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sincerely,

Yolanda Hunt-Boes, MBA, PMP, PCM

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Manager, Network Management and Application Optimization