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Important Update to Doula Services for Pregnant and Postpartum Members

Coverage of doula services by Medicaid Managed Care (MMC) Plans is required until April 1, 2025. Doula services covered by MMC Plans must be offered between March 1, 2024 and March 31, 2025, will continue to be billed to Medicaid Fee-for-Service (FFS). **Effective April 1, 2025**, doula services will be covered by MMC Plans inclusive of mandatory MMC Plans, Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), Managed Care Plans (MCPs) as well as Health and Recovery Plans (HARPs).

New York State (NYS) Medicaid members, including NYS Medicaid members enrolled in MMC, are eligible for doula services during pregnancy and up to 12 months after the end of a pregnancy, regardless of the pregnancy outcome. The 12 months of coverage includes pregnancy and 11 months following. In addition, pregnant and postpartum eligibility for doula services will start over with the new pregnancy and any unused days from the previous pregnancy do not carry over to the new pregnancy.

NYS Medicaid members, including NYS Medicaid members enrolled in MMC, may receive up to 2 doula services per pregnancy. The 2 doula services limit applies regardless of the amount of doula services they may have received through the NYS Medicaid Fee-for-Fee-for-Service (FFS) Medicaid program or through a Medicaid Managed Care (MMC) plan and applies prior to coverage by doula providers. The NYS Medicaid Fee-for-Service (FFS) Medicaid program will pay for doula services, including guidance from the doula provider under the program, for up to 2 doula services per pregnancy.

Doula services are a preventative health service, and as such, must be recommended by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts (PLPHA) within their scope of practice and be medically necessary for NYS Medicaid members. Licensed providers of perinatal and maternity care services are to discuss the benefits of doula care with their patients and refer to doulas as needed. The NYS Medicaid program will audit MMC providers with a requirement for doula services.

Doula Services Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Procedure Codes

HCPCS Code	Modifier	Procedure Code Description	Reimbursement Rate
T1032	ZS3.2 (prenatal) ZS3.3 (postpartum)	Services provided by a **Perinatal Service** (doula) during prenatal period (up to 30 minutes). Services provided by a **Postpartum Service** (doula) during postpartum period (up to 30 minutes).	Up to and including each hour: $63.75 per unit **Rest of State:** $54.17 per unit
T1032	ZS3.2 (prenatal) ZS3.3 (postpartum)	Services provided by a **Labor and Delivery** (doula) during labor and delivery. Item includes services provided in hospital inpatient, hospital outpatient, or birthing center. Item limited to one hour per day (maximum for the birth)	Up to and including each hour: $750.00 **Rest of State:** $675.00

MMC Billing Instructions

During the MMC carve-out period (March 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024), NYS Medicaid-enrolled doulas who elect to contract with MMC plans will be paid directly by the MMC plan for services provided to MMC members. Plans must comply at a minimum with the rates, which are **effective on or after January 1, 2025**, doula services covered by MMC Plan will be reimbursed by the MMC Plan.

After March 31, 2025 (effective January 1, 2025 and after), all MMC plans will be required to pay for doula services **retroactively to January 1, 2025**. MMC Plans are required to reimburse doula providers for services rendered in January 2025 and 12 months after the end of the pregnancy, regardless of pregnancy outcome. Additionally, requirements include the following:

- The doula is required to begin billing the MMC Plan of the member by **COB on or after January 1, 2025**. The MMC Plan is required to ensure continuity of care for these members. If MMC members need to be billed, it will be at the rate in place at the time of the service, which is the Medicaid Fee-for-Service (FFS) rate. **Effective on or after January 1, 2025**, the MCO or MMC Plan is required to pay the doula at the rate in place at the time of the service.
- The MMC Plan is required to make less than 50 MMC members eligible for doula services in the first year of the program, regardless of pregnancy outcome.

All MMC enrollees who **first received services prior to January 1, 2025**, doula services will be reimbursed by the MMC Plan only if:

- the doula is enrolled as a NYS Medicaid FFS provider,
- the doula is billing the MMC Plan of the MMC Plan in which the NYS Medicaid member is enrolled, and
- the doula is billing the MMC Plan.

For NYS Medicaid members enrolled in MMC, providers must contact the MMC Plan of the enrollee for billing instructions that apply on and after January 1, 2025. MMC Plan contact information can be found in the *eMedNY New York State Medicaid Program Information for All Providers – Managed Care Information Journal*.

Questions and Additional Information:

- Additional information can be found in the New York State Medicaid Program Doula Services Manual Supplement, located on the *eMedNY "Guides" web page*.
- Medicaid FFS claim questions should be directed to the eMedNY Call Center at (800) 343-9000.
- Medicaid Managed Care questions should be directed to the MMC Plan of the member's Medicaid Managed Care plan.
- MMC questions should be directed to the MMC Plans. MMC Plan contact information can be found in the *eMedNY New York State Medicaid Program Information for All Providers – Managed Care Information Journal*.

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Policy and Billing

Home Sleep Test

Effective October 1, 2024, the New York State (NYS) Medicaid fee-for-service (FFS) program will reimburse for an at-home unattended sleep test for a NYS Medicaid member meets the medical necessity criteria for home sleep testing. Medicaid Managed Care (MMC) Plans must comply at a minimum with this coverage **effective December 1, 2024**. HSTs, also known as Unattended Home Sleep Testing or Home Sleep Apnea Tests (HSAT), are medically necessary for the diagnosis of obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) when a board-certified sleep medicine physician, or a qualified healthcare professional in sleep medicine, who is collaborating with the patient's treating physician, determines that a home sleep test is medically appropriate.

NYS Medicaid FFS Coverage Criteria for HST

NYS Medicaid FFS coverage for HST is limited to NYS Medicaid members who would experience difficulty traveling to a sleep lab for a laboratory-sleep test (polysomnography) due to mobility issues (e.g., NYS Medicaid members who need assistance with ambulation or use a Durable Medical Equipment (DME) to ambulate, who are bed-bound, who are wheelchair bound, etc.). Medicaid FFS will not reimburse HST for NYS Medicaid members who are:

- Pediatric patients (under the age of 18 years old) or
- Adults 18 years of age and over who meet the NYS Medicaid FFS coverage criteria for HST after eligible for HST. The American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM) does not recommend the use of HST for the diagnosis of Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) in children because of insufficient evidence indicating its validity in pediatric patients.

To view NYS Medicaid HST access, as well as limitations and frequency, providers can refer to the August 2024 issue of the Medicaid Update.

Patient Rights and Responsibilities

The treating health care provider shall provide the member with information about HST and obtain consent from the patient. Written consent is not required, but the health care provider must document the consent in the chart of the patient.

Documentation

The following must be documented in the medical records of the patient:

1. Documentation of informed consent by the patient
2. Documentation of medical necessity for providing HST to sleep testing must be maintained in the clinical file of the ordering physician.
3. Documentation of patient history and physical, and healthcare provider assessment that proposed the need for an HST must be in the file prior to HST.
4. Documentation of the HST outcomes/test results.

Billing

Orders for sleep testing are limited to Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) who are fee/equity-trained and have completed the Medicaid Managed Care Provider Enrollment Process. Providers must use the following codes when billing, in addition to the appropriate diagnosis(es): Procedure Coding Systems (PCS) Procedure Codes:

- Electrocardiogram Procedure Codes (CPT code **95800**; in conjunction with CPT codes **93041** through **93227**, **93228**, **93229**, **93268** through **93272**, and **93278**)
- Nasal airflow (CPT code **94660**)
- Pulse oximetry (CPT code **94762**)
- If a sleep study is performed for less than an hour, it should be billed with modifier **52**.
- Bundled under the at-home diagnostic test: Equipment, and sleep study.

CPT	Modifier	Description	NYS Medicaid Rate
95800	26	Sleep Study, unattended, anoxia/hypoxia monitoring, heart rate, oxygen saturation, respiratory analysis (e.g., by airflow or peripheral arterial tone), sleep time only	$177.00
95800	TC	Physician provide the test only	$44.00
95800	26	Physician only interprets the results	$32.40

Questions and Additional Information:

- Medicaid FFS billing and coding questions should be directed to the eMedNY Call Center at (800) 343-9000.
- Medicaid FFS telehealth coverage and policy questions should be directed to the Office of Health Insurance Programs (OHIP) by telephone at (518) 473-2165 or via email at PCSMedicaid@health.ny.gov.
- Medicaid Managed Care telehealth coverage, billing, and/or documentation requirements should be directed to the specific MMC plan of the enrollee.
- MMC Plan contact information and plan director can be found in the *eMedNY New York State Medicaid Program Information for All Providers – Managed Care Information Journal*.

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Medicaid Managed Care for Undocumented Non-Citizens 65 Years of Age and Older Now Available

Effective January 1, 2024, undocumented non-citizens who are 65 years of age and older are eligible for comprehensive health insurance coverage through Medicaid Managed Care (MMC). Undocumented non-citizens who are 65 years of age and older are eligible for emergency, or medically necessary, medical care, but may receive only "QE" Medicaid Eligibility Verification Systems (MEVS) responses for these coverage codes are:

- "QF" – "Eligible primary care provider (PCP), 65 years of age and older, with pharmacy carve-out"
- "QP" – "Eligible for emergency medical care only, not eligible for primary care provider (PCP)"

Consumers enrolled in an MMC Plan with coverage code "QF" are eligible for covered plan services and pharmacy benefits through NYPE, the state's pharmacy benefit manager. Long-term services and supports (LTSS) are not available for these members. Consumers who are eligible for coverage code "QP" may only receive emergency, or medically necessary, medical care. Undocumented non-citizens who are 65 years of age and older may access this benefit through their mainstream MMC Plan. Undocumented non-citizens 65 years of age and older and not eligible for coverage through a MMC Plan may access Medicaid Managed Long-Term Care (MMLTC) Plans through Nursing Home-Special Needs Plan (SNP), Fully Integrated Dual Eligible (FIDA) or Program of Administrative Care of the Elderly (PACE).

Providers assisting non-MMC Medicaid members with applying for coverage or pharmacy benefits should be aware that applicants must complete application documentation for the appropriate Local Department of Social Services (LDSS). The LDSS will forward application documentation to the appropriate MMC Plan. Providers should be aware that the MMC Plan may request additional information from the member. Providers should be aware that the MMC Plan may request additional information from the member. Providers should be encouraged to separate fees by consumer.

Undocumented non-citizens 65 years of age and older only receive the expanded health insurance coverage through MMC Plans. Coverage for long-term nursing services will be available once the consumer has been enrolled in a plan and has approved an independent PASRR coverage assessment. Providers to these consumers while they await enrollment are limited to NYPe and does not include coverage of long-term nursing facility services.

Questions regarding this coverage expansion or eligibility should be directed to MCAidOffice@health.ny.gov.

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Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Program Childhood Vision Screening Coverage Benefit

New York State (NYS) Medicaid fee-for-service (FFS) and Medicaid Managed Care (MMC) Plans (including mainstream MMC Plans and Human Immunodeficiency Virus Special Needs Plans (HIV-SNPs)) are required to provide medically necessary services as part of the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) program when provided to NYS Medicaid members under 21 years of age. Vaccine counseling, vision, eyeglasses, and hearing services are included in the EPSDT benefit. Medicaid Managed Care Plans must comply at a minimum with this coverage.

Providers may bill for childhood vaccine counseling provided to NYS Medicaid members under 21 years of age. Vaccine counseling is a covered EPSDT service. Vaccine counseling is recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, the Public Health and Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Act. Additionally, vaccine counseling may be provided as a stand-alone service when all the criteria specified in this guidance are met and documented.

- Vaccine counseling is a covered service when performed by a provider who is capable of the vaccine counseling visit specified in this guidance and meet and documentation.
- In addition to all necessary components of the E&M/Visit CPT code:
- The provider of the E&M/Visit must be capable of the vaccine counseling visit specified in this guidance.
- Up to six vaccines may be administered to Medicaid members under age 21 in a single visit.
- when they have not received the ACIP-recommended doses and does not have an appointment to receive the recommended dose.

No individual vaccine counseling codes exist. Use the "general" Medicaid Eligibility Verification System (MEVS) responses for these coverage codes are:

- "QF" – "Eligible primary care provider (PCP), 65 years of age and older, with pharmacy carve-out"
- "QP" – "Eligible for emergency medical care only, not eligible for primary care provider (PCP)"

Consumers enrolled in an MMC Plan with coverage code "QF" are eligible for covered plan services and pharmacy benefits through NYPe, the state's pharmacy benefit manager. Long-term services and supports (LTSS) are not available for these members. Consumers who are eligible for coverage code "QP" may only receive emergency, or medically necessary, medical care. Undocumented non-citizens 65 years of age and older may access this benefit through their mainstream MMC Plan. Undocumented non-citizens 65 years of age and older and not eligible for coverage through a MMC Plan may access Medicaid Managed Long-Term Care (MMLTC) Plans through Nursing Home-Special Needs Plan (SNP), Fully Integrated Dual Eligible (FIDA) or Program of Administrative Care of the Elderly (PACE).

Providers assisting non-MMC Medicaid members with applying for coverage or pharmacy benefits should be aware that applicants must complete application documentation for the appropriate Local Department of Social Services (LDSS). The LDSS will forward application documentation to the appropriate MMC Plan. Providers should be aware that the MMC Plan may request additional information from the member. Providers should be encouraged to separate fees by consumer.

Undocumented non-citizens 65 years of age and older only receive the expanded health insurance coverage through MMC Plans. Coverage for long-term nursing services will be available once the consumer has been enrolled in a plan and has approved an independent PASRR coverage assessment. Providers to these consumers while they await enrollment are limited to NYPe and does not include coverage of long-term nursing facility services.

Questions regarding this coverage expansion or eligibility should be directed to MCAidOffice@health.ny.gov.

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Pharmacy

New York State Medicaid Pharmacy Policy for Coronavirus Disease 2019 Testing

Effective October 1, 2024, with the expiration of the Public Health Emergency (PHE) and provisions in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), NYSe has the State Medicaid Plan (SMP) and Medicaid Managed Care Plans (MCPs) cease provide coverage for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) testing when administered in a pharmacy or dispensed as a kit for at-home use. Coverage of COVID-19 testing will continue to be provided to eligible Medicaid members when administered by a NYS Medicaid-enrolled provider or dispensed in person by a clinical laboratory.

Additional information can be found on the the *eMedNY New York State Medicaid Program – Physician Policy Guidelines manual*.

Medicaid Managed Care

Coverage of COVID-19 testing will continue to be provided for Medicaid Managed Care (MMC) enrollees via their MMC Plan. Additional MMC Plan information can be found in the *eMedNY New York State Medicaid Program Information for All Providers – Managed Care Information Journal*.

Questions and Additional Information:

- NYS Medicaid fee-for-service (FFS) questions should be directed to the eMedNY Call Center at (800) 343-9000.
- NYS Medicaid FFS claim questions should be directed to the Office of Health Insurance Programs (OHIP) Division of Program Development and Management (DPM) by telephone at (518) 473-2165 or by email at PCSMedicaid@health.ny.gov.
- MMC general coverage questions should be directed to the OHIP Division of Health Care Financing and Oversight (DHCFO) by email at mcoquestions@health.ny.gov or telephone at (518) 473-7785.
- MMC reimbursement, billing, and/or documentation requirement questions should be directed to the MMC Plan of the enrollee.
- MMC Plan contact information can be found in the *eMedNY New York State Medicaid Program Information for All Providers – Managed Care Information Journal*.

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New York State Medicaid Coverage for Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccines for Eligible Vaccine For Children Program Members at the Pharmacy

Effective January 1, 2025, with the expiration of the Public Health Emergency (PHE) and provisions in the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act, New York State (NYS) Medicaid will revert to pre-pandemic processing of vaccines for NYS Medicaid members younger than 19 years of age. Pharmacy providers administering Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccines to Medicaid members should be aware that the National Drug Code (NDC) for the COVID-19 vaccine will change. Pharmacy providers should be aware that as well, pharmacy in the NYS program may choose to procure COVID-19 vaccines for NYS Medicaid members younger than 19 years of age, or to charge to the NYS Medicaid Fee-for-Service (FFS) Medicaid program, or to the NYS Medicaid for vaccine administration only.

Additional Information and Questions:

- For COVID-19 vaccine questions, providers should contact the Bureau of Immunization and Pharmacy Services (BIPS) COVID-19 Vaccination information web page.
- NYS Medicaid FFS claim questions should be directed to the eMedNY Call Center at (800) 343-9000.
- NYPe Pharmacy Policy questions should be directed to (518) 486-3200 or NYPe@health.ny.gov.
- NYS Medicaid FFS Pharmacy and prior authorization questions should be directed to the Office of Health Insurance Programs (OHIP) Division of Program Development and Management (DPM) by telephone at (518) 473-2165 or by email at PCSMedicaid@health.ny.gov.
- Medicaid Managed Care questions should be directed to the specific MMC Plan of the enrollee. MMC Plan contact information can be found in the *eMedNY New York State Medicaid Program Information for All Providers – Managed Care Information Journal*.

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Introduction to Upcoming Pharmacy and Practitioner Administered Drug Changes Due to Enacted Budget

In accordance with the enacted 2024-25 budget and Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2024, the New York State (NYS) Medicaid program will make the following changes:

- **Effective October 1, 2024**, the Medicaid program will discontinue reimbursement for **Medicaid Fee-for-Service (FFS) Medicaid** for **brand prescription drugs** for:
  - Medicaid Managed Care members;
  - **Practitioner Administered Drugs (PAD) reimbursement methodology and process for drugs provided and claimed separately by medical practitioners will change to the lesser of:**
  - Average Sales Price (ASP) plus 6% (NADAC); or
  - MAC (if no ASP or NADAC pricing available); or
  - Federal Upper Limit (FUL); or
  - Average Wholesale Price (AWP) minus 20 (AMC); or
  - the actual cost of the drug to the practitioner.

Please note: Information including implementation dates, billing guidance, appeal and any retroactive claim reimbursement will be shared in subsequent Medicaid Update articles regarding the above changes.

- **The Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board will review certain classes of over-the-counter (OTC) drugs for continued coverage.** Information regarding the classes coverage updates, and implementation dates for those changes can be found on the NYS Department of Health (DOH) "Drug Utilization Review (DUR)" web page, under the "DUR Board Meeting Information" tab.
- Medicaid Managed Care providers will use the drug search tool on the eMedNY "Medicaid List of Covered Drugs and Over the Counter (OTC) Products" web page.
- Providers should use the formulary search tool on the eMedNY "Medicaid Pharmacy List of Reimbursable Drugs" web page, to find covered options.

Questions

- Questions regarding program changes should be directed to NYPe, the Medicaid Pharmacy program, by email at NYPe@health.ny.gov or by telephone at (518) 486-3200.

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Provider Directory

- Office of the Medicaid Inspector General: For suspected fraud, waste or abuse complaints/questions, call 1-877-87FRAUD, (877-873-7283), or visit Office of Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG) web site.
- Provider Relations/Comparison Guides, Enrollment Information/Forms/Schedules: Please visit the eMedNY website.
- Providers wishing to listen to the current week's Medicaid Update: Please call (866) 307-5549 (available Thursday PM for one week for the current week's answer).
- For questions about Medicaid Managed Care Organizations: Please call the eMedNY Call Center at (800) 343-9000.
- Provider Training: Please enroll online for a provider seminar. For individual training requests, call (800) 343-9000.
- Beneficiary Eligibility: Call the Touchtone Telephone Verification System at (800) 997-1111.
- Medicaid Fraud Detection Program: For current information on best practices in pharmacotherapy, please visit the following website: Medicaid Fraud Detection Program.
  - Prescriber Education Program is available here.
- eMedNY: For a number of questions, including change of address, updating an enrollment file due to an ownership change, enrolling another NPI, or reactivating an existing enrollment, please visit eMedNY's Provider Guides and choose the appropriate link based on provider type.
- Comments and Suggestions Regarding This Publication: Please contact the editor, Angela Lincoln, at medicaidupdate@health.ny.gov.

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