



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health – Women’s & Children’s Health Section
1917 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1917
Tel 919-707-5550 • Fax 919-870-4824


Michael F. Easley, Governor

Dempsey Benton, Secretary

December 21, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Universal Childhood Vaccine Distribution Program (UCVDP)
Private Providers

FROM: Beth Rowe-West, R.N., B.S.N., Head 
Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: Charging for State-Supplied Vaccines

The purpose of this memo is to outline a temporary rule change affecting the way private providers may charge for the administration of state-supplied vaccines. Until 2007, the Medicaid rate for reimbursement for the administration of state-supplied vaccines given by private providers was \$13.71 for the first injection, and a maximum of \$27.42 for two or more injections given in the same visit. This amount reflected the Medicaid rate.

Retroactive to January 1, 2007, Medicaid will pay private providers per vaccine administered for each vaccine given in an encounter. Medicaid has also changed their rates for the administration of vaccines by type and whether counseling was involved. Currently Medicaid is reimbursing as follows:

- The first injectable vaccine administered - \$17.25,
- **Each subsequent vaccine** -\$9.71,
- Intranasal and orally administered vaccines - \$11.60 without counseling and \$11.27 with counseling when it is the only vaccine given during the encounter, and
- Intranasal and orally administered vaccines given in addition to injectable vaccines are reimbursed at \$7.89 without counseling and \$8.56 with counseling.

For the complete information about these rates, see pages 21-22 of Medicaid’s *Health Check Billing Guide, June 2007*, at: <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dma/bulletin/HealthCheckBillingGuide0507.pdf>. This is also the reference for any additional information on vaccine administration.

In order for immunization regulations and contracts to be consistent with Medicaid rates, the Commission for Public Health recently approved a temporary rule change to the NC Administrative Code, **10A NCAC 41A.0502 (c) (1)**. Effective December 1, 2007, the new language will state that private providers are required to: **Charge vaccine administration fees at no more than the rates established by the State’s Medicaid Program.** The Immunization Branch will issue new provider contracts by the end of 2007 reflecting this change.

Please remember that according to federal law, and as is stated in private provider vaccine agreements, *providers may not deny administration of pediatric vaccines to vaccine-eligible children because of the inability of a parent to pay an administration fee.*

Questions on this issue should be addressed to the immunization nurse serving your region, or the central office at 919-707-5550.

cc: SMT CO IB Regional Staff Maclyn Powell
Steve Shore Peter Graber

