



State of Vermont  
Agency of Human Services  
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# Global Commitment Register

July 3, 2024

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GCR 24-032  
FINAL

## **Change Healthcare Outage—Pharmacy Enhanced Dispensing Fee**

### **Policy Summary:**

The Vermont Medicaid program made changes to support providers impacted by the Change Healthcare cybersecurity incident identified on February 21, 2024. The cybersecurity incident impacted enrolled pharmacy providers' ability to process and submit claims for Medicaid services. In response to the outage, Vermont Medicaid made a change to the Professional Dispensing Fee on a temporary basis.

Vermont Medicaid provided a temporary enhanced Professional Dispensing Fee for prescribed drugs to account for the manual and time-consuming procedures pharmacies had to perform due to the Change Healthcare outage. The Professional Dispensing Fee for a retail community, institutional, or long-term care pharmacy of \$11.13 increased by \$3.26 per claim from June 3, 2024 – June 30, 2024.

This change is one of several temporary flexibilities and changes being made to support providers impacted by the Change Healthcare cybersecurity incident. Additional information on these changes can be found in [Global Commitment Register 24-029 Change Healthcare Outage—Medicaid Response](#).

**Effective Date:** June 3, 2024

**Authority/Legal Basis:**  
[Medicaid State Plan](#)

This change is being done through Global Commitment to Health waiver authority, where DVHA may establish rates with providers on an individual or class basis without regard to the rates currently set forth in the approved State Plan.

[Global Commitment to Health Waiver](#): Waiver authority #5 [Section 1902(a)(13), 1902(a)(30)]; Special Term and Condition #6.8.

**Population Affected:**  
All Medicaid

**Fiscal Impact:**  
The estimated gross annualized budget impact is \$560,000.

**Public Comment Period:**

The public comment period ended June 21, 2024. No comments were received.

**Additional Information:**

[Pharmacy Programs Bulletins and Advisories](#) describe the temporary flexibilities and can be found on the Vermont Department of Health Access website.

The following State Plan page was amended:

- Attachment 4.19-B page 4a

Click here for the [Medicaid State Plan](#) on the AHS website.