

Global Commitment Register

November 22, 2024

GCR 24-124 PROPOSED

COVID-19 Vaccine and Emergency Use Drug Coverage Changes

Policy Summary:

Vermont Medicaid is making changes related to drugs authorized by the Federal Drug Administration for emergency use only and COVID-19 vaccines at pharmacies.

- 1. Effective January 1, 2025, coverage is ending for drugs for the treatment of COVID-19 that are not FDA-approved for use. This includes the drugs Lagevrio (molnupiravir) and Pemgarda (pemivibart) that are only authorized for emergency use. This change is being made now that the COVID-19 coverage period has ended and aligns with Medicare Part D coverage. Treatments for COVID-19 that are FDA approved continue to be covered.
- Effective January 1, 2025, Medicaid cannot reimburse pharmacists for vaccines distributed outside of the Vermont Child Vaccines Program (VCIP). The federal PREP Act allowed pharmacists to administer COVID-19 vaccines to children until December 31, 2024. See <u>final GCR 23-101</u> COVID-19 Vaccine Coverage.

Pharmacies are encouraged to participate in VCIP to continue to administer COVID-19 vaccines to Medicaid enrolled children and youth under age 19. More information about the Vermont Immunization Program can be found on the Vermont Department of Health's website.

Effective Date:

January 1, 2025

Authority/Legal Basis:

Medicaid State Plan

Population Affected:

All Medicaid

Fiscal Impact:

This change is expected to be budget neutral.

Public Comment Period:

November 22, 2024 – December 23, 2024



Send comments to:
Medicaid Policy Unit
280 State Drive, Center Building
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000

Or submit via e-mail to AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov.

To be added to the GCR email list, send an email to AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov.

Additional Information:

Reimbursement for COVID-19 vaccines through the Medicaid medical benefit can be found on the Vermont Medicaid Fee Schedule and Vermont Medicaid General Billing and Forms Manual.

More information about vaccines for Medicaid enrolled pharmacies can be found in the <u>Pharmacy Provider Manual</u>.

PREP Act Question and Answers

