



PROVIDER *bulletin*

August 4, 2021

Dear Provider:

Kern Family Health Care (KFHC) appreciates the care you provide to our members. Providing efficient and appropriate care is the goal of KHFC and our plan partners as yourselves.

We are approaching another winter cold/flu season with the COVID-19 virus surging again. Pharmacy has played a critical role in vaccinating the public. There is still plenty of opportunity to serve in this arena. Kern County has a low COVID-19 vaccination rate. It is even lower in the Medicaid population. This is a trend seen statewide. Even those counties that have a robust county vaccination rate, the Medicaid population lags a good 20% - 50% behind. Please continue to identify and outreach to the community to get vaccinated. If providing the vaccine, continue this important service.

Identify eligible members by checking the CAIR website for vaccination based on current ACIP guidelines. Factors taken into consideration will include:

- Age
- vaccination status e.g. persons previously vaccinated or due for a vaccination according to the recommended schedule
- the presence of a medical condition that puts them at high risk.

After administering the vaccine, please record the encounter with the CAIR website. Further details on pharmacy billing and eligibility requirements for administering vaccines are outlined in Policy 13.07-P.

More information on the two programs may be found at the following links.

California Immunization Registry (CAIR) Website: <http://cairweb.org>

This is a reminder for properly submitting claims for the COVID-19 Vaccine. The vaccine and all billing components are carved out of managed care plans are to be billed to the Fee-For-Service program. Below is a bulletin issued by DHCS that provides guidance on how to submit claims for payment. If experiencing any issues, please contact DHCS for resolution.

COVID-19 Vaccine Administration: Real-Time NCPDP D.0 Pharmacy Claims Can Be Submitted

https://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/newsroom/newsroom_30717_23.aspx

*** Per CDC guidelines, the influenza vaccine and COVID-19 vaccine should be separated by 14 days.***

Thank you for helping to take care of our members and for performing the important and appreciated services you provide day in and day out.

Sincerely,

Bruce Wearda, R.Ph.
Director of Pharmacy