

IHCP *bulletin*

INDIANA HEALTH COVERAGE PROGRAMS BT202165 AUGUST 3, 2021

IHCP pharmacy benefits resumes pre-COVID-19 policies

In response to the national public health emergency for the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak, the Indiana Health Coverage Programs (IHCP) implemented changes regarding pharmacy benefits. These changes temporarily suspended copayments for pharmacy claims, preference status of asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)-related metered dose inhalers (MDIs), and patient signature requirements for proof of delivery (including patient pickup). See *IHCP Bulletin* [BT202044](#). Additionally, these changes allowed a 90-day supply of maintenance drugs (upon member request). See *IHCP Bulletin* [BT202021](#).



Effective for dates of service (DOS) on or after Sept. 3, 2021, the IHCP will resume the following pre-COVID-19 requirements:

- Preferred status for short-acting beta agonists (e.g., albuterol) will resume. Members will need to have had an initial trial of a preferred MDI before they may receive a nonpreferred MDI.
- The process in place prior to the national public health emergency for 90-day supply of maintenance drugs will resume.

Note:

- Patient signature requirements for proof of delivery (including patient pickup) will resume, effective for DOS on or after Aug. 1, 2021. See *IHCP Bulletin* [BT202152](#).
- The temporary suspension of copay requirements for pharmacy claims remains in effect.

These changes apply to pharmacy benefits delivered under both the fee-for-service (FFS) and managed care delivery systems.

Providers can find information about pharmacy benefits for members in FFS programs on the OptumRx website accessible via the [Pharmacy Services](#) quick link at in.gov/medicaid/providers. Questions should be directed to the OptumRx Clinical and Technical Help Desk by calling toll-free 855-577-6317.

Question about pharmacy benefits for members in the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP), Hoosier Care Connect or Hoosier Healthwise programs should be directed to the managed care entity (MCE) with which the member is enrolled. Providers can access pharmacy benefit websites for the MCEs via the [Pharmacy Services](#) quick link at in.gov/medicaid/providers.

QUESTIONS?

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