



March 2020 NC Medicaid Bulletin Digest

[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #30: Personal Care Services Assessments](#)

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020

On March 10, 2020, Governor Roy Cooper issued an executive order declaring a State of Emergency for North Carolina to respond to COVID-19. In addition, the Department of Health and Human Services made several recommendations to slow the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the number of people infected.

[More](#)

[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #29: Coverage for Automatic Blood Pressure Monitors: Temporary Flexibilities Effective March 30, 2020](#)

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020

Updated April 22, 2020: Link to downloadable list of enrolled DMEPOS providers added. Effective March 30, 2020 NC Medicaid and NC Health Choice coverage was added for HCPCS code A4670 – automatic blood pressure monitor.

[More](#)

[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #28 \[ADDENDUM to Bulletin #9 Effective March 30, 2020\]: Telehealth Provisions - Clinical Policy Modification](#)

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2020

NOTE: SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #28 has been replaced in its entirety by [SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #34: Telehealth Clinical Policy Modifications - Definitions, Eligible Providers, Services and Codes.](#)

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[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #27: Update for PACE Organizations](#)

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2020

PACE organizations are responsible for providing all required Medicare and Medicaid covered services to its PACE participants. This responsibility also extends to the participants' home setting. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, NC Medicaid recognizes that PACE organizations will need to adjust business operations and the methods utilized to address the needs of PACE participants.

[More](#)



[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #26: Expansion of Home Infusion Therapy Drug Categories: Clinical Policy Modification 3H-1](#)

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2020

Effective March 30, 2020 NC Medicaid is temporarily modifying the Home Infusion Therapy Clinical Coverage Policy No.: 3H-1 to better enable the delivery of remote care to Medicaid members. These temporary changes will end the earlier of the cancellation of the North Carolina state of emergency declaration or when this policy is rescinded. This expansion of home infusion therapy serves to allow beneficiaries to receive services in the home rather than in a dedicated infusion center to reduce potential exposure to COVID-19.

[More](#)

[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #25: Emergency Update to NC Medicaid and NC Health Choice Preferred Drug List \(PDL\) and REMS Program Flexibilities](#)

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2020

Effective March 25, 2020, due to drug shortages in the marketplace, the NC Medicaid and NC Health Choice PDL Category of "Respiratory: Beta-Adrenergic Handheld, Short Acting" has changed.

[More](#)

[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #24: NC Medicaid Cost Report Filing Extensions Due to COVID-19](#)

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2020

Select provider types enrolled in the North Carolina Medicaid Program are required to file annual Medicaid cost reports utilizing cost reporting schedules which are based on approved Medicare cost reporting platforms.

[More](#)

[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #23: NC Innovations and NC TBI Waivers Community-Based Services \(HCBS\) Flexibilities for Waiver Beneficiaries Enrolled in 1915\(c\) HCBS Waivers](#)

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2020

NOTE: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) have approved Appendix K flexibilities mentioned below. - April 9, 2020

NC Medicaid has implemented flexibilities on how Medicaid providers and beneficiaries may access and receive Medicaid services in the wake of COVID-19. Utilization and prior approval limits for specific State Plan Medicaid services will be relaxed for all



Medicaid beneficiaries impacted by COVID-19 including individuals participating in the NC Innovations Waiver and the NC TBI Waiver. NC Medicaid has created an emergency planning document called Appendix K to seek approval to modify the scope, frequency, amount and setting of how waiver services are used and approved.

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[*SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #22: CAP/C and CAP/DA Home and Community-Based Services \(HCBS\) Flexibilities for Waiver Beneficiaries Enrolled in 1915\(c\) HCBS Waivers*](#)
FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2020

NOTE: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) have approved Appendix K flexibilities mentioned below. - April 9, 2020

NC Medicaid has implemented flexibilities on how Medicaid providers and beneficiaries may access and receive Medicaid services in the wake of COVID-19. Prior approval and service utilization limits for *specific* State Plan Medicaid services will be relaxed for all Medicaid beneficiaries impacted by COVID-19, including individuals participating in the Community Alternatives Program (CAP) waivers.

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[*SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #21: Telehealth Provisions - Outpatient Specialized Therapies and Dental Services*](#)
FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2020

NOTE: SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #21 has been replaced in its entirety by SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #36: Telehealth Clinical Policy Modifications - Outpatient Specialized Therapies and Dental Services

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[*SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #20: Telehealth Provisions for Enhanced Behavioral Health Services*](#)
FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2020

NOTE: SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #20 has been replaced in its entirety by [*SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #35: Telehealth Clinical Policy Modifications - Enhanced Behavioral Services*](#)

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[*SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #19: Update to Telehealth Provisions: Clinical Policy Modifications*](#)
FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2020



NOTE: SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #19 has been replaced in its entirety by [SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #34: Telehealth Clinical Policy Modifications - Definitions, Eligible Providers, Services and Codes.](#)

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[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #18: Guidelines for Non-Emergency Medical Transportation](#)
THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020

This Bulletin provides information to local Departments of Social Services (DSS) and NEMT providers on NC Medicaid's requirements for NEMT services, the recommended safety procedures and protocols to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and guidance.

[More](#)

[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #17: Prior Approval for Hydroxychloroquine and Chloroquine Products](#)
THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020

Effective March 27, 2020, North Carolina Medicaid is requiring prior approval for hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine containing products. Prior approval is required to ensure beneficiaries continue to have access to these medications for maintenance of their autoimmune conditions, for treatment of malaria, and for treatment of extraintestinal amebiasis.

[More](#)

[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #16: Re-verification Due Dates Extended for NC Medicaid Providers](#)
THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020

To offset potential hardships due to COVID-19, for NC Medicaid and Health Choice providers who were due to re-verify their enrollment between the dates of March 1, 2020 and June 30, 2020, NCTracks has reset your re-verification due date to Sept. 13, 2020.

[More](#)

[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #15: Medicaid and NC Health Choice Temporary Flexibilities - 1135 Waiver Provisions](#)
TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has granted NC Medicaid the authority to temporarily modify several Medicaid and NC Health Choice policies



retroactive to March 1, 2020, and through the end of federal emergency declaration or when the flexibility is ended by the State or CMS

[More](#)

[*SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #14: Diagnosis Code Being Added to Exemption List for the Annual Office Visit Limit*](#)

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020

In response to the anticipated spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in North Carolina, NC Medicaid is adding the following diagnosis code to the list of diagnoses exempt from the annual visit limit:

[More](#)

[*SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #13: EviCore Chest Computed Tomography \(CT\) Auto-Approval*](#)

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020

In response to the anticipated spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in North Carolina, EviCore, NC Medicaid's contracted vendor for imaging services, will auto-approve the following chest CT codes effective immediately:

[More](#)

[*SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #12: Suspension of Pharmacy POS Adult and Pediatric Behavioral Health Clinical Edits*](#)

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020

The Outpatient Pharmacy point of sale (POS) adult and pediatric clinical edits for behavioral health medications will temporarily suspend effective March 23, 2020. These point of sale edits target dosages exceeding the FDA approved maximum limit and in class therapeutic duplication.

[More](#)

[*SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #11: Outpatient Specialized Therapies Temporary Flexibilities*](#)

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020

Effective March 23, 2020, if medically necessary, outpatient Respiratory Therapy (RT) services provided through the Independent Practitioner Provider (IPP) program that typically require prior authorization (PA), may be provided to NC Medicaid and NC Health Choice beneficiaries without PA.

[More](#)



[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #10: Durable Medical Equipment: Temporary Flexibilities Effective March 23, 2020](#)

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020

Effective March 23, 2020, **if medically necessary**, the following additional respiratory equipment and supplies that typically require prior authorization (PA) may be provided to beneficiaries without first seeking PA:

[More](#)

[COVID-19 Question and Answer Webinar for Providers 3/24](#)

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2020

DHHS will host a question and answer webinar to discuss new guidance for all health providers related to COVID-19 on Tuesday, March 24, 2020, from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

[More](#)

[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #9: Telehealth Provisions - Clinical Policy Modification](#)

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2020

NOTE: SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #9 has been replaced in its entirety by [SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #34: Telehealth Clinical Policy Modifications - Defin](#)

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[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #8: Face-to-Face Provider Site Visits and Fingerprinting Requirements Temporarily Suspended Due to COVID-19 Outbreak](#)

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2020

NOTE: SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #8 has been replaced in its entirety by [SPECIAL BULLETIN #39: Face-to-Face Provider Site Visits and Fingerprinting Requirements for NC Medicaid Provider Enrollment Temporarily Suspended.](#)

[More](#)

[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #7: Public Health Emergency Enrollment Applications for Health Care Professionals Not Currently Enrolled as an NC Medicaid Provider](#)

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2020

NC DHHS continues to take action to protect the health and safety of our state's patients and providers during the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. NC DHHS received authority under Section 1135 of the Social Security Act to waive certain federal Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP and HIPAA requirements.

[More](#)



[*SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #6: Temporary Policy Modifications for 1915 Waivers \(Appendix K\)*](#)

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2020

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has granted NC Medicaid the authority to move forward with Home and Community-Based (HCBS) waiver flexibilities requested March 13, 2020.

[More](#)

[*SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #5: Private Duty Nursing and Home Health Updates*](#)

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2020

Private Duty Nursing - beneficiaries under 21 years of age, Private Duty Nursing - all beneficiaries and Home Health – All Beneficiaries.

[More](#)

[*SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #4: Billing Requirements Modified in Response to COVID-19*](#)

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2020

To ensure beneficiaries continue to receive Medicaid and NC Health Choice services with no interruption or delays due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the disposition for three claim processing edits have been temporarily changed.

[More](#)

[*Reminder: Requests for Disproportionate Share Hospital Data*](#)

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2020

This article is a reminder to providers of the process for submitting requests for Disproportionate Share Hospital data. Medicaid and NC Health Choice Providers must request and obtain batch Medicare DSH Recipient Eligibility Verifications and Provider Statistical and Reimbursement reports through NCTracks.

[More](#)

[*SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #3: Recent Updates*](#)

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2020

We know these are challenging times and are grateful for the continued support of our partners across the state. There is a wealth of information on the DHHS website and our team is working around the clock to make it as user-friendly as possible.

[More](#)



[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #2: General Guidance and Policy Modifications](#)

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2020

NC Medicaid is committed to ensuring our beneficiaries continue to receive Medicaid and NC Health Choice services with no interruptions or delays due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. This includes making it easier for health care providers to deliver Medicaid services by temporarily modifying certain policy conditions and expanding coverage to include additional forms of clinical service.

[More](#)

[Timely Submission of PDN Prior Authorization Request for Additional Information](#)

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020

Effective March 1, 2020, Medicaid will begin issuing letters to PDN agencies addressing non-compliance with the timely submission of required documentation as indicated in the Request for Additional Information notice.

[More](#)

[SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #1: NC Medicaid Provider Webcast: Medicaid Policies and Codes Related to COVID-19](#)

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020

NC Medicaid is committed to ensuring our beneficiaries continue to receive Medicaid and NC Health Choice services with no interruptions or delays due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. A webcast has been scheduled to discuss temporary modifications to certain policies and provide related billing codes.

[More](#)

[Fam-trastuzumab deruxtecan-nxki for Injection, for Intravenous Use \(Enhertu®\) HCPCS Code J9999: Billing Guidelines](#)

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020

Effective with date of service Jan. 6, 2020, Medicaid and NC Health Choice programs cover fam-trastuzumab deruxtecan-nxki for injection, for intravenous use (Enhertu) for use in the Physician Administered Drug Program when billed with HCPCS code J9999 - Not otherwise classified, antineoplastic drugs.

[More](#)

[Enfortumab vedotin-ejfv for Injection, for Intravenous Use \(Padcev™\) HCPCS Code J9999: Billing Guidelines](#)

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020



Effective with date of service Dec. 31, 2019, the Medicaid and NC Health Choice programs cover enfortumab vedotin-ejfv for injection, for intravenous use (Padcev) for use in the Physician Administered Drug Program when billed with HCPCS code J9999 - Not otherwise classified, antineoplastic drugs.

[More](#)

[*Behavioral Health Crisis System Memo for Standard Plans*](#)

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2020

The department is releasing a Behavioral Health Crisis System Memo for Standard Plans

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[*NC Medicaid Electronic Health Record Incentive Program Announcements*](#)

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020

NC-MIPS is Open for Program Year 2019; The Security Risk Analysis (SRA); Reminder from CMS Regarding Objective 6 and Objective 7; Clarification from CMS Regarding Objective 5 Measure 1: Patient Electronic Access and General Reminders.

[More](#)