

# SPECIAL eBULLETIN

FOR PROFESSIONAL AND FACILITY

DECEMBER 3, 2019

## CERTAIN PREVENTIVE VACCINES TO BE COVERED UNDER OUTPATIENT RX BENEFITS AT PARTICIPATING RETAIL PHARMACIES

Putting patients first means giving members access to high-quality care. It's about convenience and quality.

To help make preventive vaccines more accessible to our members, especially those who live and/or work outside of Highmark's service areas, Highmark will begin covering certain preventive vaccines at no cost when received at certain pharmacies participating in Express Scripts, Inc.(ESI)'s network under members' outpatient pharmacy benefits.

This benefit change will take effect **January 1, 2020** for fully insured large and small groups, Administrative Services Only (ASO) groups, and Affordable Care Act (ACA)/individual plans.

Groups/individuals must have their pharmacy benefits through Highmark to be eligible for this benefit. This benefit **does not** apply to travel vaccines.

Most network pharmacies will participate in this program. Members should contact the pharmacy which they wish to use for these vaccines to:

- 1) See if the pharmacy participates in this program; Ask if the vaccines they wish to receive are in stock and if there are any associated restrictions, or preferred administration times; and
- 2) Check if a prescription may be needed.

For vaccine coverage questions, members can also call the toll-free numbers on the back of their member ID cards. They can also visit their member websites and use the **Find a Doctor or Rx** feature to find network pharmacies.

Members can then go to the participating pharmacy, present their member ID cards, and receive certain preventive vaccines that are administered and covered under their pharmacy benefits at the point of service with no cost-sharing. The preventive vaccinations that are part of this program are listed below for your convenience.



## VACCINES COVERED

The following preventive vaccines are covered under this benefit:

- Chicken Pox (Varicella)
- Diphtheria, Tetanus (Td/Tdap)
- Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP)
- Flu (Influenza)
- Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib)
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV)
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)
- Meningitis
- Pneumonia
- Polio (IPV)
- Rotavirus
- Shingles

## REVIEW IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULES

We encourage you to review the immunization schedules under Preventive Health Guidelines on the Provider Resource Center and discuss with your patients. Click the **EDUCATION/MANUALS** link in the main left menu, then click the **Preventive Health Guidelines** link, and then click any of the links under the **Immunization Schedules**. This program does not change current coverage under the medical benefit. The program is meant to increase access to preventive vaccinations.

Highmark appreciates the work you do to care for your patients who are our members and safeguard the health of the communities we serve.