NEWS FOR
PROFESSIONAL PROVIDERS ONLY
(HIPAA 837P CLAIM SUBMITTERS)

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FDA RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AGE EXPANSION FOR HPV VACCINE

STAY POSTED FOR FURTHER GUIDANCE

The current approved and first dollar benefit coverage age range for the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine series is 9 to 26 years. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) mandates first dollar benefit coverage for this and other routine immunizations approved by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

Recently, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recommended the HPV three-dose series for ages 27 to 45 years. The CDC is evaluating the FDA's recommendation and will provide further guidance.

In the meantime, patients may inquire about the FDA's recommendations for the HPV vaccine series. Because the FDA's recommendation has not yet been finalized as of this writing, the HPV vaccine series for members 27 to 45 years is ***not*** covered under current preventive benefits. Therefore, these members are responsible for paying out of pocket for the HPV vaccine series.

Once the CDC's decision is final, Highmark will update benefits to reflect that decision.

We will inform you when the CDC has finalized its decision with respect to the HPV vaccine series. Keep in mind that the Preventive Schedule is updated twice a year in January and July, and the timing of the CDC's final decision will determine when any updates would be added to the Preventive Schedule.

Additional vaccine information is available at: https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/index.html and https://www.cdc.gov/hpv/hcp/schedules-recommendations.html.

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