



Kevin Corbett | Chief Executive Officer

J. Kevin Stitt | Governor

REVISED IIT/U Public Notice 2020-10

December 16, 2020

RE: *REVISED* Oklahoma Health Care Authority Proposed COVID-19 Disaster Relief Requests

Dear Tribal Representative:

The purpose of this letter is to give you notice of the proposed COVID-19 disaster relief policy follow up requests that were submitted to CMS on December 10, 2020 and December 14, 2020.

In response to the public health emergency declared by the President of the United States on March 13, 2020, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services invoked his authority to waive or modify certain requirements of titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act to assist states in responding to the COVID-19 national emergency. CMS is allowing states to request flexibilities which revise policies related to eligibility, enrollment, benefits, premiums, cost sharing, and payments outlined in their Medicaid state plans as well as Section 1115 demonstrations. The flexibilities ensure sufficient health care items and services are available to meet the needs of Medicaid members and to ensure health care providers who furnish such services in good faith, but are unable to comply with one or more of such requirements as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, may be reimbursed for services absent any determination of fraud or abuse.

OHCA requested the following COVID-19 related policy changes, through a disaster relief state plan amendment, with an effective date of August 24, 2020:

The OHCA will allow physicians as well as pharmacists, pharmacy interns, and other qualified professionals, as per the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act, to be reimbursed for the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine. The OHCA will follow Medicare's reimbursement guidance for the COVID-19 vaccine and will reimburse \$16.94 for the administration of the first vaccine and \$28.39 for the administration of the second vaccine.

Vaccines administered to American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN) members by a qualified facility operated by the Indian Health Service, tribal government(s), or



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urban Indian health program (I/T/U) will be reimbursed the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) rate, per the current State Plan methodology, for the administration of the COVID vaccine.

Vaccines administered within a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or Rural Health Clinic (RHC) will be reimbursed the prospective payment system (PPS) rate or alternative payment methodology (APM) rate, as applicable and as per the State Plan, for the administration of the COVID vaccine.

If administration of the COVID-19 vaccine is the sole purpose of the FQHC or RHC visit, the Medicare vaccine administration reimbursement methodology above will be applied.

The proposed vaccine administration reimbursement methodologies will apply to any approved route for the particular vaccine (percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, intramuscular, intranasal, or oral route) during the public health emergency.

Additionally, the OHCA will extend the current vaccine administration reimbursement methodologies, as per the Oklahoma Medicaid State Plan, to pharmacists and other qualified professionals described in the PREP Act for all Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended vaccines.

The OHCA also requested the following COVID-19 related policy change through a disaster relief state plan amendment with an effective date of December 14, 2020:

The Agency will allow hospitals to make hospital presumptive eligibility (HPE) determinations for non-MAGI individuals as a means of facilitating discharges from hospitals to long-term care facilities, as appropriate.

The proposed requests will be in effect from the date of CMS approval until the termination of the public health emergency.

The OHCA values consultation with tribal governments and will strive to provide your representatives up-to-date information regarding the requests submitted to CMS.



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Additionally, this item will be discussed in the upcoming face-to-face tribal consultation on January 5, 2021.

Sincerely,

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Dana Miller
Director, Tribal Government Relations



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