Ohio | Department of Medicaid

**To:** Ohio Medicaid Managed Care Plans
Ohio Medicaid MyCare Ohio Plans

**From:** Roxanne Richardson, Acting Director
Office of Managed Care

**Date:** April 4, 2019

**Subject:** Statewide Hepatitis A Outbreak – Vaccine Coverage Mandate

Ohio is in the midst of a statewide outbreak of Hepatitis A. Since January 5, 2018, there have been 1,931 cases of Hepatitis A identified in Ohio. Historically, Ohio has seen about 40 cases per year.

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) has asked the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) and our partners for assistance in supporting local response efforts. To aid in these efforts ODM is requiring Medicaid managed care and MyCare Ohio Plans to assist in addressing this outbreak through the following activities:

- Notifying individuals who may be at risk for Hepatitis A infection including, but not limited to, any:
  - Individual who currently uses recreational drugs (regardless if he/she injects)
  - Individual experiencing homelessness or in transient living
  - Individual with direct contact (e.g., lives with, has sexual contact with, or is a caregiver for) someone infected with Hepatitis A
  - Children attending child care and their teachers/family members
  - Person who traveled to areas of United States where there is an outbreak or countries where Hepatitis A is common
  - Individual who was recently incarcerated
  - Individual with underlying liver disease (including cirrhosis, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C)
  - Individual with a clotting-factor disorder
- Encouraging individuals, and assisting if needed, to contact their provider for information about vaccination or to discuss post-exposure vaccination options, if applicable;
- Identifying and removing barriers for anyone who needs assistance accessing care, getting to appointments, etc.;
- Covering the Hepatitis A vaccine for members without prior authorization;
- Allowing the Hepatitis A vaccine for members through the pharmacy benefit;
- Disseminating educational materials (see attached); and
- Engaging your local counterparts to support outbreak response.

The USPTF-recommended Hepatitis A vaccine is covered through fee-for-service Medicaid. Effective with the date of this memorandum, managed care plans must cover the codes below for children and adults with no prior authorization requirements until further notice. For pediatric patients, plans cannot impose limits to use Hepatitis A vaccines only available through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. Plans must remove any system edits that would prevent payment of both the product cost and administration fee for Hepatitis A vaccines.

- For children ages birth through 18: procedure codes 90633 and 90634 are the VFC eligible hepatitis A vaccines.
- For adults age 19 and older: procedure codes 90632 (Hepatitis A) and 90636 (Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B) vaccine.

For current information about the outbreak and a county map, please see: https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/media-center/feature-stories/Hepatitis-A-Statewide-Community-Outbreak.

Attachments