MEMORANDUM

TO: QUEST Integration (QI) Health Plans
Medicaid Fee-for-Service (FFS) Physicians and Pharmacies

FROM: Judy Mohr Peterson, PhD
Med-QUEST Division Administrator

Curtis Toma, MD
Med-QUEST Division Medical Director

SUBJECT: MEDICAID BENEFITS FOR THE PREVENTION OF ZIKA VIRUS TRANSMISSION

Zika infection during pregnancy can lead to severe birth defects including microcephaly which can result in severe developmental delays. Due to this potential risk of birth defects, Hawaii Medicaid has elected to cover mosquito repellents for women of childbearing age.

Background

On June 1, 2016, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a bulletin regarding Medicaid benefits available for the prevention, detection, and response to the Zika virus. Refer to the following link for details: www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/cib060116.pdf. CMS has given state Medicaid programs the option to cover mosquito repellents for the prevention of Zika virus transmission.

There have been 14 individuals in Hawaii diagnosed with travel-associated Zika infection. There are no reported cases of locally acquired Zika in Hawaii. However, Hawaii does have the specific Aedes mosquito species capable of transmitting Zika virus. The National Governors Association notes, “Texas, Florida, and Hawaii are likely to have the highest incidence of local transmission of Zika virus by mosquitoes, historically based on similar virus patterns.”

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Coverage Criteria

Effective November 1, 2016, through October 31, 2017, Hawaii Medicaid will cover mosquito repellents under the following conditions:

- The mosquito repellent is an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellent with one of the following active ingredients: DEET 25% or picaridin 20%.
- The mosquito repellent is prescribed by a health professional with prescriptive authority in Hawaii.
- Prescription is for a pregnant or non-pregnant woman 14 - 45 years of age.
- Two bottles (as defined in Table 2: Mosquito Repellents) of mosquito repellent every thirty (30) days will be allowed.
- Mosquito repellent will be dispensed at pharmacy with patient education.

Provider Guidance

The valid prescription\(^1\) must include the active ingredient, quantity dispensed, directions for use, and number of available refills. Prescription examples include but are not limited to the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Active Ingredient</th>
<th>Concentration</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Safe with Pregnancy or Breastfeeding</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Picaridin 20%</td>
<td>20% Approved for use in children.</td>
<td>20% = 7-10 hr.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Does not damage clothing. Generally as effective as DEET. Available in U.S. since 2005.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mosquito repellents containing DEET 5-10% have a shorter duration of action at 1 - 2 hours. DEET 25% and picaridin 20% have a longer duration of action at several hours. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends that children use DEET at concentrations of 30% or lower. Mosquito repellents containing DEET have a longer track record of use and more commonly available at outlets and pharmacies.

Table 1: Summary of Active Ingredients DEET and Picaridin

<table>
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Pharmacy Billing Guidance

Please contact the Medicaid health plans directly for billing instructions. For Hawaii Medicaid beneficiaries enrolled in the Medicaid transplant program, please contact Xerox (Hawaii Medicaid’s fiscal agent) at 952-5570 (Oahu) or (808) 235-4378 (neighbor islands) for billing instructions.

The QI health plans will cover mosquito repellents listed below in Table 2, for Medicaid beneficiaries meeting criteria outlined previously.

Table 2: Medicaid Eligible Mosquito Repellents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Name</th>
<th>Bottle Size</th>
<th>NDC</th>
<th>UPC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cutter Backwoods 25% Spray</td>
<td>170 gm (6 oz.)</td>
<td>71121096280</td>
<td>071121962805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFF! Deep Woods Dry 25% Spray</td>
<td>113 gm (4 oz.)</td>
<td>46500071764</td>
<td>046500717642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFF! Deep Woods 25% Spray</td>
<td>170 gm (6 oz.)</td>
<td>46500001842</td>
<td>046500018428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repel Sportsmen 25% Spray</td>
<td>184 gm (6.5 oz.)</td>
<td>11423094137</td>
<td>011423941375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natrapel 20% Picaridin</td>
<td>177 ml (5 fl. oz.)</td>
<td>44224006878</td>
<td>044224068781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sawyer Repellent 20% Picaridin</td>
<td>118 ml (4 fl. oz.)</td>
<td>50716000544</td>
<td>050716005448</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
References


