

March 26, 2024

To: MCO Medical Directors

R/E: Extencillin Availability during Bicillin shortage

The CDC has issued clinical guidance in treating syphilis: https://www.cdc.gov/std/treatment-guidelines/syphilis.htm?ACSTrackingID=USCDCNPIN_122-DM109263&ACSTrackingLabel=Clinical%20Reminders%20during%20Bicillin%20LA%20Shortage&deliveryName=USCDCNPIN_122-DM109263

This guidance has been complicated by the ongoing shortage of Bicillin:
<https://www.cdc.gov/std/dstdp/dcl/2023-july-20-Mena-BicillinLA.htm>

On January 16, 2024, the FDA announced the availability of Extencilline, an equivalent to Bicillin LA, as an alternative during the Bicillin shortage.
https://www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/dear_colleague/2024/dcl-01122024-fda-bicillin.html

AHCCCS is sharing information for health plans to share with their providers that the drug product, Extencilline, is covered under Medicaid under the "prescribed drugs" section. AHCCCS can obtain the FFP match but there is not a federal rebate.

The company, Provepharm, is providing the NDC for the drug and obtaining supplies from the French manufacturer. This is the only wholesaler that will be distributing Extencilline and states that standard 3-day shipping will be included. Provepharm will provide expedited shipping, however, the cost for expedited shipping will be the responsibility of the ordering Providers.

For providers, the claim must be billed on a medical claim using the HCPCS code J0561 Penicillin G Benzathine, 100,000 units. The current FFS fee schedule price is 21.73 for 1 unit of the HCPCS Code (which equals 100,000 units of the drug). For the 1.2 MU injection the reimbursement using the FFS fee schedule would be \$260.76 (12 units of the HCPCS code X 21.73) and for the 2.4MU the price would be \$521.52 (24 units of the HCPCS code X \$21.73). For clarification, the pricing is set at \$250 for 1.2MU and \$500 for 2.4MU. There are not any other prices and 340B pricing is the same as above.

AHCCCS is collaborating with public health partners in preparing additional guidance and information to address the current outbreak of syphilis and the associated incidence of congenital syphilis. In the meantime, please share this information within your provider networks.

Please reach out with any questions.