

# IHCP *bulletin*

Note: This bulletin has been updated.  
See IHCP Bulletin [BT202075](#).



INDIANA HEALTH COVERAGE PROGRAMS BT202044 APRIL 16, 2020

## ***IHCP COVID-19 Response: IHCP makes updates to pharmacy benefits***

In further response to the national public health emergency associated with the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak, the Indiana Health Coverage Programs (IHCP) is implementing the following additional changes regarding pharmacy benefits delivered under both the fee-for-service (FFS) and managed care delivery systems:



- Copays for all pharmacy claims are waived, effective April 1, 2020.
- Preference status of asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)-related metered dose inhalers (MDIs) has been suspended, effective April 1, 2020.
  - This change allows a member to receive a nonpreferred MDI without the need for an initial trial of a preferred MDI.
- Patient signature requirement for proof of delivery has been suspended (including patient pickup), effective March 1, 2020.
  - Pharmacy staff members are requested to complete the patient signature line with “COVID” in lieu of obtaining the patient’s signature.
- Three-month extensions have been added to prior authorizations with expiration dates in April and May 2020 (excluding opioids and hepatitis C drugs).
  - This change requires no additional action by the member or pharmacy.

These changes are in addition to the changes detailed in *IHCP Bulletin* [BT202021](#). They will allow members to have access to an adequate supply of medication without needing to leave home during the COVID-19 outbreak. The IHCP will continue to monitor events and will make additional changes as necessary.

For more information, direct FFS questions to the OptumRx Clinical and Technical Help Desk by calling toll-free 1-855-577-6317. Questions regarding pharmacy benefits for members in the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP), Hoosier Healthwise, and Hoosier Care Connect should be referred to the managed care entity (MCE) with which the member is enrolled.

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