

Monthly Provider Update

February 2025

Go Paperless! Get the Monthly Provider Update by Email

Providers can now sign up to receive monthly updates via email by filling out [the form on our Bulletins page](#).



Did you miss an update? You can locate Monthly Provider Updates from previous months and applicable supplemental bulletins in the **archive section of the Bulletins page**, or see full details of any ongoing reminders on the **Ongoing Reminders page**.

Please be sure to regularly check the **Bulletins page** on [mimeridian.com](#) for important **Medicaid and Medicare-Medicaid Plan (MMP)** provider updates. Policy changes, fee schedule updates, and urgent notices are posted throughout the month.

Upcoming Webinars and Events

Monthly Provider Webinars:

- Wednesday, March 5, 9 – 10 am EST
- Wednesday, April 2, 9-10 am EST

Bi-Weekly Provider Orientation Webinars:

- Thursday, February 20, 12 pm EST
- Thursday, March 6, 8 am EST

Meridian Patient Experience Provider Summit

Meridian's CEO, CMO, and Quality team will present with in-depth discussion on the importance of an excellent patient experience, highlighting how Meridian and Providers can work together to make a positive impact. Enjoy light refreshments and network with other providers. Office managers and administration staff also welcome to attend.

April 11, 2025 | 2 – 5 pm EST

Hosted at The Carhartt Workshop

5800 Cass Avenue 2nd Floor Detroit, MI 48202

Additional details and links to 2025 webinars are available on our bulletins page

Market-Wide Updates

American Heart Health Awareness Month

February is American Heart Health Awareness Month, and Meridian wants to make sure you are optimizing the care of your patients by letting them know about Meridian's Heart Health Coaching program. The program supports members with all types of cardiovascular health conditions such as heart failure, coronary vascular disease (CVD), high blood pressure, and high cholesterol. Members can enroll in the Heart Health program by calling Member Services at 888-437-0606.

Clinical Practice Guidelines

Meridian's Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) are reviewed and revised, as appropriate, based on changes in national guidelines, changes in valid and reliable clinical evidence, or consensus of health care professionals and providers. The Meridian CPGs can be found at mimeridian.com > For Providers > QI Program. Please review the CPGs regularly to ensure you are aware of changes, additions, and retirements.

Clinical and Payment Policy Updates

Meridian has recently adopted and/or updated several Clinical and Payment Policies, effective in March of 2025. Please refer to the bulletins page for a full list of updated policies.

Stark Law (42 U.S.C. § 1395nn)

The Stark Law, also known as the Physician Self-Referral Law, prevents physicians from referring patients to certain health services if they have a financial relationship with the health care entity. The law applies to Medicare and Medicaid patients. What does the Stark Law prohibit?

- Referring patients to designated health services (DHS)
- Submitting claims to Medicare for referred services
- Seeking personal financial or equity gains related to patient care
- Fraudulent and unnecessary testing, referrals, and medical services

For additional information, please see our bulletins page for a direct link to an overview of the Stark law from the Department of Health and Human Services.

Kidney Health Evaluation for Patients with Diabetes (KED)

According to the National Institute of Health, diabetes is the leading cause of chronic kidney disease affecting almost one-in-three people. While clinical guidelines recommend that all people with diabetes have routine tests to detect kidney disease, less than half get the needed tests. Because kidney disease does not show symptoms until later stages of the disease, early detection is key. Please see our flyer on the bulletins page for more information.

Meridian (Michigan Medicaid) Updates

Public Comments to MDHHS on Michigan Medicaid Common Formulary

Q1 2025: The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is soliciting comments from the public on the Michigan Medicaid Health Plan Common Formulary. The public (including Medicaid providers) may submit comments on the drugs included or not included on the Common Formulary, new drug products, prior authorization criteria, step therapy criteria and other topics related to drug coverage under the Common Formulary. The comments will be reviewed by MDHHS and the Michigan Medicaid Health Plan Common Formulary Workgroup and changes may be made to the Common Formulary based on comments received. Please send your comments by March 14th, 2025 to Linda VanCamp, CPhT, Formulary Analyst, at MDHHSCommonFormulary@michigan.gov. Please see the bulletins page for more details.

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Pediatric Oral Health Reimbursement

Did you know you can get reimbursed for oral health screenings and fluoride varnish services for patients aged zero to three? Fluoride varnish can be successfully integrated into medical practice with the commitment and openness of PCPs and staff, along with training. Visit www.SmilesforLifeOralHealth.org for online courses and resources.

In Case You Missed It

Additional details can be found on our [Ongoing Reminders Page](#)

- **Recent Prior Authorization, Billing, and Policy Updates:**
 - Electric Tumor Treating Fields Clinical Policy (Effective 1/17/2025)
- The **CAHPS Survey season** takes place from February-June annually and the interactions you have with your patients makes an impact. We all play an important role in impacting our members' experience and members have the opportunity to share their experiences in the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) survey.
- The **Barrier Removal Fund** program is a partnership between Centene and the National Council of Independent Living (NCIL). This partnership is committed to providing equal access to quality health care and services that are physically and programmatically accessible for our members with disabilities and their companions. Please see our bulletins page for details on eligibility requirements to **apply for the Barrier Removal Fund grant funding for Michigan**.
- Effective January 1, 2025, Meridian will **no longer offer the Weight Watchers benefit**. Members interested in weight management can seek services through **Meridian's Lifestyle Management Program**.
- **Flu season** is here, and it's time for everyone to get **up to date on vaccinations**. With your patient's trust and their best interest at heart, it's up to you to **recommend they get their flu vaccine** as the best way to protect themselves and those around them.
- **Hepatitis C Virus Program:** The **recommended treatment for HCV is Mavyret**, which can be dispensed in eight-week supply. Providers who have prescriptive authority can prescribe Mavyret to their patients with a positive Hepatitis C diagnosis. **Prior authorization is not required for Medicaid**.
- **Medicare-Medicaid Plan (MMP) Dedicated Care Management:** All MMP members have a **dedicated care manager** who is a registered nurse or licensed social worker **assigned to support them with their healthcare needs**, navigating the healthcare system, and assisting with resources for SDoH needs.