

MEDICAID POLICY INFORMATION SHEET

Policy Analyst: Adriena Krul-Hall

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Initial ☐

Public Comment ☒

Final ☐

Brief description of policy:

This policy increases access to hearing aid batteries by adding Medical Suppliers as an additional dispensing provider type and by shifting the allowable battery dispensing schedule from six months to a year.

Reason for policy (problem being addressed):

Due to the small number of hearing aid providers willing to dispense hearing aid batteries, Medicaid beneficiaries in certain areas of Michigan have limited access to the item. In addition, hearing aid providers serving beneficiaries outside of their service area are incurring unreimbursed shipping expenses. These providers are mailing batteries to beneficiaries when his/her hearing aid visits do not occur within a six-month schedule.

Budget implication:

☒ budget neutral

☐ will cost MDHHS \$, and (select one) budgeted in current appropriation

☐ will save MDHHS \$

Is this policy change mandated per federal requirements?

No

Does policy have operational implications on other parts of MDHHS?

No

Does policy have operational implications on other departments?

No

Summary of input:

☐ controversial (Explain)

☐ acceptable to most/all groups

☐ limited public interest/comment

Supporting Documentation:

State Plan Amendment Required: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Public Notice Required: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If Yes, please provide status:	If yes,
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Pending <input type="checkbox"/> Denied	Submission Date:
Date: Approval Date:	

DRAFT FOR PUBLIC COMMENT Michigan Department of Health and Human Services		
	Project Number: 1925-Hearing	Date: August 21, 2019

Comments Due: September 25, 2019
Proposed Effective Date: January 1, 2020
Direct Comments To: Adriena Krul-Hall
Address: Program Policy Division/MDHHS/MSA/CCC 7th Floor
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Policy Subject: Updates to Disposable Hearing Aid Battery Coverage Affected Programs: Medicaid, Healthy Michigan Plan, MICHild, and Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) Distribution: Practitioners, Local Health Departments, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Rural Health Clinics, Medicaid Health Plans, Tribal Health Centers, Hearing Aid Dealers, Hearing Centers, Nursing Facilities, Outpatient Hospitals, Durable Medical Equipment Providers Summary: The policy adds medical suppliers as an allowable dispenser of hearing aid batteries and expands the dispensing schedule from six months to a year. Purpose: To provide greater access to hearing aid batteries. Cost Implications: Budget neutral Potential Hearings & Appeal Issues: Aware of None

State Plan Amendment Required: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, date submitted:	Public Notice Required: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submitted date:
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Tribal Notification: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> - Date:
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THIS SECTION COMPLETED BY RECEIVER

<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> No Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Disapproved	<input type="checkbox"/> See Comments Below
	<input type="checkbox"/> See Comments in Text

Signature:	Phone Number
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Signature Printed:

Bureau/Administration <i>(please print)</i>	Date
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Proposed Policy Draft

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Medical Services Administration

Distribution: Practitioners, Local Health Departments, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Rural Health Clinics, Medicaid Health Plans, Tribal Health Centers, Hearing Aid Dealers, Hearing Centers, Nursing Facilities, Outpatient Hospitals, Durable Medical Equipment Providers

Issued: December 1, 2019 (Proposed)

Subject: Updates to Disposable Hearing Aid Battery Coverage

Effective: January 1, 2020 (Proposed)

Programs Affected: Medicaid, Healthy Michigan Plan, MICHild, and Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS)

This policy applies to Medicaid Fee-for-Service (FFS). Medicaid Health Plans (MHP) and Integrated Care Organizations (ICO) must provide the full range of covered services described in this policy at a minimum and may choose to provide services over and above those specified. For beneficiaries enrolled in an MHP or ICO, the provider must check with the beneficiary's health plan for coverage parameters and prior authorization requirements.

This bulletin updates the coverage of disposable hearing aid batteries. To provide greater access to hearing aid batteries, benefit limitations have been altered and the allowable dispensing provider types have been expanded.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) covers the replacement of disposable hearing aid batteries up to a quantity of 36 batteries per hearing aid per date of service. A maximum of 72 batteries per hearing aid per year are covered. Effective for dates of service on and after January 1, 2020, beneficiaries will no longer be restricted to a six-month dispensing schedule. Prior authorization is required for quantities exceeding the standards of coverage. Documentation must accompany the MSA-1653-B – Special Services Prior Approval – Request/Authorization form to substantiate the need for additional batteries.

Effective for dates of service on and after January 1, 2020, hearing aid batteries prescribed by a Medicaid enrolled physician or qualified non-physician medical practitioner (e.g., Physician Assistant, Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist) may be dispensed by any of the following properly credentialed Medicaid enrolled providers:

- Hearing Aid Dealer
- Audiologist
- Hearing Center
- Medical Supplier

All other current policy standards remain unchanged.