



Medicaid Advisory Letter (MAL) No. 641

DATE: January 28, 2020

TO: Eligible Medicaid ESRD Dialysis Clinic Providers
Chief Executive Officers, Medicaid Managed Care Plans
Other Interested Parties

FROM: Maureen M. Corcoran, Medicaid Director

SUBJECT: **Separate Payment for Erythropoietin-Stimulating Agents Administered at ESRD Dialysis Clinics**

As set forth in Ohio Administrative Code rule 5160-13-02, for covered dialysis services provided at an End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) dialysis clinic (Medicaid provider type 59), payment is made as an all-inclusive composite amount per visit. Separate payment may be made for covered professional services of a medical practitioner and for covered laboratory services and pharmaceuticals that are not directly related to dialysis treatment.

Erythropoietin-stimulating agents (ESAs) stimulate the production of red blood cells, but the Ohio Department of Medicaid does not consider ESAs to be related directly to hemodialysis. Payment for ESAs is therefore made separately from the all-inclusive composite amount.

Please note that this MAL provides a clarification for ESAs and does not represent a complete listing of all separately payable drugs (e.g., anemia management drugs [iron] and bone and mineral metabolism drugs [vitamin D]).

Questions

Questions pertaining to this letter may be directed to the Ohio Department of Medicaid.

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