



# **Tribal and Designee Medi-Cal Advisory Process Webinar on Expedited SPA 22-0062 Tribal Notice**

August 26, 2022

# Purpose

- The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is hosting this webinar regarding proposed changes to the Medi-Cal Program. This webinar will provide information and allow for feedback on State Plan Amendments (SPA) and Waiver Renewals/Amendments proposed for submission to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).
- Background: Executive Orders recognize the unique relationship of Tribes with the federal government and emphasize the importance of States to work with Tribes on matters that may impact Indian health.
- This webinar is one way for DHCS to provide information about the Medi-Cal program and get feedback verbally and in writing.
- **Expedited Tribal Notice:** Please note that DHCS' Approved Tribal Advisory SPA 12-002 allows for a 14-day expedited Tribal and designee notification process. All expedited processes are approved by CMS.

# State Plan Amendment Overview

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# Medicaid State Plan and State Plan Amendment Overview

- **State Plan:** The official contract between the state and federal government by which a state ensures compliance with federal Medicaid requirements to be eligible for federal funding. It describes the nature and scope of Medicaid and gives assurance that it will be administered in accordance with the specific requirements of the Federal Social Security Act, Code of Federal Regulations, and State law/regulations.
- California's State Plan is over 1600 pages and can be accessed online at:  
<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/CaliforniStatePlan.aspx>
- **SPA:** Any formal change to the State Plan.
- Approved State Plans and SPAs ensure the availability of federal funding for the state's program (Medi-Cal).

# **SPA 22-0062**

## Mpox Vaccine

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# Background

- » Health and Human Services Secretary Becerra declared a public health emergency on August 4, 2022, as a result of the consequences of an outbreak of Mpox cases across multiple states.
- » In response to the declared public health emergency, DHCS is proposing to establish the Medi-Cal fee-for-service (FFS) reimbursement rates for Mpox vaccine administration at 100 percent of the corresponding Medicare rate for the same or similar service, effective August 17, 2022 through the end of the declared public health emergency for Mpox.

# Background Continued

- » At the end of the declared public health emergency, the reimbursement methodology is expected to return to the methodology for vaccine administration as described in State Plan Attachment 4.19-B.
- » Because the vaccines are being paid for by the federal government, there will be no provider reimbursement under Medi-Cal for the Mpox vaccine itself.
- » Proposed SPA 22-0062 is subject to approval by CMS.

# Purpose

- » To seek the necessary federal approvals to establish reimbursement rates for Mpox vaccine administration.



# Summary of Proposed Changes

- » DHCS proposes to reimburse Federally Qualified Health Centers, Rural Health Clinics, Tribal Federally Qualified Health Centers (Tribal FQHCs), and Indian Health Service-Memorandum of Agreement (IHS-MOA) providers a supplemental amount for Mpox vaccine-only visits.
- » This alternative payment methodology will be additional reimbursement above the applicable Prospective Payment Systems (PPS)/alternative payment methodology (APM) approved in State Plan Attachment 4.19-B.
- » This APM will reimburse clinics an additional payment equal to the established FFS rate when a Mpox vaccine is administered on its own.
- » The proposed effective date for SPA 22-0062 is August 17, 2022.

# Impact to Tribal Health Programs

- » To the extent that Tribal health programs provide Mpox vaccines, an increase in Medi-Cal beneficiaries accessing the services within Tribal Health Programs may occur.
- » Payment will be available as a supplemental FFS payment outside of the Office of Management and Budget Indian Health Service per visit rate for Tribal 638 clinic providers.

# Impact to Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)

- » To the extent that FQHCs provide these service for Medi-Cal beneficiaries, there may be an increase in those beneficiaries accessing these services.
- » FQHCs may offer Mpox vaccines and payment will be available as FFS rates outside of the PPS rates.

# Impact to Indian Medi-Cal Beneficiaries

- » Medi-Cal beneficiaries may have increased access to the Mpox vaccine, which is expected to improve health outcomes for beneficiaries receiving these services.

# Contact Information

Benefits Division

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# Feedback/Questions

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