

MEMORANDUM



El Paso Health
HEALTH PLANS FOR EL PASOANS. BY EL PASOANS.

STAR CHIP STAR+PLUS

TO: Valued Providers
FROM: El Paso Health
DATE: 3/20/2025
RE: COVID Test Kit and Vaccine Coverage in the Pharmacy Benefit

Changes to At-Home COVID Test Kits

Due to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) expiration, VDP is reducing the quantity of at Home COVID tests available per member to 4 a month without a prior authorization, effective April 7, 2025. Medicaid and CHIP members are currently allowed to receive four (4) at-home COVID tests and an additional four (4) at-home COVID tests through prior authorization for a total of 8 per month.

Clarification of COVID and Flu Vaccine Coverage in the Pharmacy Benefit

There is no change in policy for vaccine coverage in the pharmacy benefit. However, VDP provides the pharmacy benefit vaccine coverage chart below for clarification. El Paso Health adheres to the chart below. This chart does not include the Medicaid medical benefit coverage requirements.

Pharmacy-Administered Vaccine Category	Pharmacy Benefit Coverage Policy
COVID vaccines for ages 3 to 18	These are not covered by the Texas Medicaid pharmacy benefit. They are reimbursed through the Vaccines for Children program .
COVID vaccines for ages 19 and older	El Paso Health will allow through the Medicaid pharmacy benefit, i.e. EPH/Navitus and for FFS, including cost of vaccine and administration fee.
Flu vaccines for ages 3 to 18	El Paso Health will allow through the Medicaid pharmacy benefit, i.e. EPH/Navitus and for FFS, including cost of vaccine and administration fee.
Flu vaccines for ages 19 and older	El Paso Health will allow through the Medicaid pharmacy benefit, i.e. EPH/Navitus and for FFS, including cost of vaccine and administration fee.

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Pharmacy-Administered Vaccine Category	Pharmacy Benefit Coverage Policy
All other vaccines for ages 14 to 18	These are not covered by the Texas Medicaid pharmacy benefit. They may be reimbursed through the Vaccines for Children program . (See state pharmacy law /Texas State Board of Pharmacy for age limits on pharmacist vaccine administration.)
All other vaccines for ages 19 and older	These are not covered by the Texas Medicaid pharmacy benefit. VDP is proposing to add these. More information is to come.

If you have any questions regarding this communication please contact our Provider Relations team at 915-532-3778 or email us at ProviderRelationsDG@elpasohealth.com.