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SUBJECT Trumenba® and Bexsero®, Meningococcal B Vaccines	BY  Leesa M. Allen, Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs	

IMPORTANT REMINDER: All providers (including all associated service locations - 13 digits) who enrolled on or before **March 25, 2011** must revalidate their enrollment information no later than **March 24, 2016**. New enrollment application including all revalidation requirements may be found at http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/provider/promise/enrollmentinformation/S_001994. Please send in your application(s) as soon as possible.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to inform providers enrolled in the Medical Assistance (MA) Program that Trumenba® and Bexsero® are now being supplied by the Pennsylvania Department of Health’s (DOH) Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program. Effective September 2, 2015, DOH added Trumenba® and Bexsero® to the list of vaccines approved by the VFC Program.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all physicians, certified registered nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives, outpatient hospitals and independent medical surgical clinics enrolled in the MA Program who administer immunizations to MA beneficiaries in the MA Fee-For-Service delivery system and the MA Managed Care delivery system. Providers rendering services to MA beneficiaries under the MA Managed Care delivery system should address any questions to the appropriate managed care organization (MCO).

BACKGROUND:

On October 29, 2014, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Trumenba®, the first vaccine licensed in the United States to prevent invasive meningococcal disease caused by Neisseria meningitidis serogroup B in individuals 10 through 25 years of age.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

The appropriate toll free number for your provider type

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs Web site at
<http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/provider/healthcaremedicalassistance/index.htm>

On January 23, 2015, the FDA approved a second vaccine, Bexsero®, to prevent invasive meningococcal disease caused by *Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup B in individuals 10 through 25 years of age.

Before these approvals, existing approved meningococcal vaccines in the U.S. covered only four of the five main serogroups of *Neisseria meningitidis* bacteria that cause meningococcal disease: A, C, Y and W.

Meningococcal disease is a life-threatening illness caused by bacteria that infect the bloodstream (sepsis) and the lining that surrounds the brain and spinal cord (meningitis). *Neisseria meningitidis* is a leading cause of bacterial meningitis. The bacteria are transmitted from person to person through respiratory or throat secretions (e.g., by coughing, kissing, or sharing eating utensils). According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), about 500 total cases of meningococcal disease were reported in the United States in 2012; of those cases, 160 were caused by serogroup B.

Meningococcal disease can be treated with antibiotics to reduce the risk of death or serious long-term problems, but even with immediate medical attention these outcomes are not always prevented. Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent meningococcal disease.

Complete Vaccination Recommendations of the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) for Trumenba® and Bexsero® were published June 12, 2015, in the CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) number 64(22); 608-612, and may be obtained from the CDC website at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6422a3.htm>.

DISCUSSION:

On June 12, 2015, the CDC's ACIP voted to approve a Category B (permissive) recommendation for use of meningococcal B vaccines among certain age groups.

Effective September 2, 2015, the DOH, Division of Immunizations, made Trumenba® and Bexsero® available to providers enrolled in the VFC Program. VFC's provider enrollment process is found on the DOH website at:

http://www.health.pa.gov/My%20Health/Immunizations/Vaccines-for-Children/Documents/New_Section_2_%20A_Enrollment_2015.pdf.

The Department added Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code 90620 (meningococcal recombinant protein and outer membrane vesicle vaccine, Serogroup B, 2 dose schedule, for intramuscular use) and CPT code 90621 (meningococcal recombinant lipoprotein vaccine, serogroup B, 3 dose schedule, for intramuscular use) to the Outpatient Fee Schedule, for the administration of meningococcal B vaccine, under MA Bulletin (MAB) 99-15-06, "2015 HCPCS Updates and Other Procedure Code Changes", effective September 1, 2015. The Outpatient Fee Schedule is available at:

<http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/publications/forproviders/schedules/mafeeschedules/index.htm>.

PROCEDURE:

Beginning September 2, 2015, VFC enrolled providers may order Trumenba® and Bexsero®, through the DOH VFC Program, for administration to VFC and MA eligible children, under 19 years of age. The MA Program will continue to cover Trumenba® and Bexsero vaccines for individuals under 19 years of age consistent with the indicated use of the vaccine by the FDA and current ACIP recommendations through November 29, 2015, to allow providers sufficient time to obtain adequate supply of the meningococcal B vaccines through the VFC Program.

Effective for dates of service on or after November 30, 2015, the MA Program will limit payment for Trumenba® and Bexsero® vaccine for MA-eligible beneficiaries who are 19 years of age and older consistent with the indicated use of the vaccine by the FDA and current ACIP recommendations.

Effective for dates of service on and after September 1, 2015, MA providers should bill the Department for the administration of the Trumenba® vaccine using the CPT code 90621 or for the administration of the Bexsero® vaccine using CPT code 90620. For dates of service, prior to September 1, 2015, providers should bill the Department for the administration of Trumenba® or Bexsero® using CPT code 90749 (unlisted immunization procedure). MA providers should refer to MAB 99-15-06 for the addition of CPT codes 90620 and 90621 to the Outpatient Fee Schedule.

The MA fee for the administration of each vaccine is \$10.00 per administration. Providers participating in an MA MCO network must abide by payment arrangements as stated in their individual MCO contract.

MA providers may bill the Department for meningococcal B vaccine (Trumenba® or Bexsero®) for MA eligible beneficiaries by indicating, on the claim submission, the appropriate National Drug Code and the units dispensed for the vaccine. Providers may access the online version of the MA Drug Fee Schedule found on the Department's website at: <http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/publications/forproviders/schedules/drugfeeschedule/index.htm>.