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Ron DeSantis, Governor
Jonathan R. Satter, Secretary

MANAGEMENT ADVISORY #20-002 (Clarification for MA #20-001)

DATE: April 13, 2020

TO: Agency and University Personnel Officers and Benefits Coordinators

FROM: Jennifer Lloyd, Director, Division of State Group Insurance

SUBJECT: Executive Order #20-85 Telehealth and Immunizations for State Group Insurance

Governor DeSantis issued [Executive Order #20-85](#) directing the Department of Management Services to amend its state plan documents with its health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and preferred provider organization (PPO) contracts to allow for telehealth services and immunizations at retail pharmacies. These services are available for the duration of the public health emergency period at no cost to the member.

The attached Letter to Members will be mailed out in support of this directive.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this information, please contact the Division of State Group Insurance at dsgihelp@dms.myflorida.com.



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Ron DeSantis, Governor
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April 13, 2020

Dear State Group Health Member:

State employees across Florida are providing mission critical resources and support to protect all Floridians in response to COVID-19. On March 26, 2020, Governor DeSantis increased access to care for all State Group Insurance Plan members through Executive Order 20-85. The order directed two immediate changes that will enhance your State Group Health Benefits. These changes, detailed below, are intended to provide immediate access to care that will help you and your family maintain your health and wellness during this public health emergency.

Telehealth Access

Effective March 26, 2020, members of the State Group Insurance Health Plans (Standard and High Deductible HMO Plans and the PPO Plans) may use telehealth to access covered health care services from participating health care practitioners with the HMO or PPO plans and acting within the scope of their licenses and Florida law. Telehealth services will be covered at no cost share to the member.

Expanding telehealth access is vital for both those undergoing treatment of COVID-19, experiencing symptoms, or for those seeking preventative care. Telehealth also complies with the social distancing guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

This early access to and waiver of cost sharing for telehealth services will be effective through the end of the public health emergency period. Preventive telehealth services and applicable member cost share will become effective under your State Group Health Insurance Plan on January 1, 2021.

Immunizations

Effective March 26, 2020, State Group Insurance Health Plans (Standard and High Deductible Health Maintenance Plans and Preferred Provider Plans) will cover immunizations at participating in-network retail pharmacies at no cost to the member.

As medical professionals are working around the clock to support the COVID-19 response effort, many health care provider offices are busier than normal. Expanding access to immunizations beyond the physical office will allow you to go directly to a participating in-network retail pharmacy to receive these immunizations.

Be aware that while a flu vaccination is not a cure for the COVID-19 virus, both are respiratory viruses, and this preventive measure can help lessen your chances, and your family's chances, of illness and exposure. Additional information is available at the [National Foundation for Infectious Diseases](#).

The immunization benefit will be in effect through the end of the public health emergency period. On June 30, 2020, it will go into effect as law for all covered immunizations, including influenza.

For more information about how to specifically access these benefits in your plan, please contact your plan directly or visit: <https://www.mybenefits.myflorida.com/health/resources> for a link to your plan's website. Please take advantage of these new resources during this public health emergency.

Thank you for your service to our state. Let's keep Florida healthier together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan R. Satter', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jonathan R. Satter
Secretary

JRS