

ISSUE DATE January 25, 2022	EFFECTIVE DATE December 22, 2021	NUMBER *See below
SUBJECT SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Oral Antiviral Treatments with emergency use authorization (EUA) from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)		BY  Sally A. Kozak, Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs

IMPORTANT REMINDER: All providers must revalidate the Medical Assistance (MA) enrollment of each service location every 5 years. Providers should log into PROMiSe to check the revalidation dates of each service location and submit revalidation applications at least 60 days prior to the revalidation dates. Enrollment (revalidation) applications may be found at: <https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/PROMiSe-Enrollment.aspx>.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to:

1. Inform pharmacies of the addition of procedure code S5001 to the Medical Assistance (MA) Program Fee Schedule for the dispensing of oral antiviral treatments with emergency use authorization (EUA) from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for treatment of SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19).
2. Provide instructions for pharmacies to submit claims for the dispensing of oral antiviral treatments with EUA from the FDA for the treatment of COVID-19.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all licensed pharmacies enrolled in the MA Program who dispense medications to MA beneficiaries in the Fee-for-Service (FFS) delivery system. Providers rendering services in the MA managed care delivery system should address any coding and billing questions to the appropriate managed care organization (MCO).

*01-22-06	09-22-05	27-22-03	33-22-04
02-22-03	11-22-04	30-22-03	
03-22-03	14-22-03	31-22-06	
08-22-06	24-22-03	32-22-03	

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 website at

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Health%20Care%20for%20Providers/Contact-Information-for-Providers.aspx>.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The FDA recently issued an EUA for oral antiviral medications for the treatment of COVID-19, for Pfizer's Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir tablets and ritonavir tablets, co-packaged for oral use) on December 22, 2021, and for Merck's molnupiravir capsules on December 23, 2021. To allow payment to pharmacies for the dispensing to MA beneficiaries of these and any other oral antiviral treatments for COVID-19 with EUA from the FDA, the Department of Human Services (Department) added a procedure code to the MA Program Fee Schedule.

PROCEDURE:

The following procedures apply to the submission of claims for the dispensing of COVID-19 oral antiviral treatments with EUA from the FDA by pharmacies to MA beneficiaries in the FFS delivery system.

Pharmacies should submit an 837 Professional (837P) claim for the dispensing of the COVID-19 oral antiviral treatments with EUA from the FDA using the procedure code S5001 as identified below. The billing and rendering provider for the professional dispensing fee should be the MA-enrolled pharmacy's National Provider Identifier (NPI). An MA-enrolled prescriber NPI should be submitted in the referring provider field. The FFS professional dispensing fee for COVID-19 oral antiviral treatments is \$10.00.

Pharmacies are to use the following procedure code for the dispensing of COVID-19 oral antiviral treatments with EUA from the FDA to FFS beneficiaries:

Procedure Code	Procedure Code Description	MA Fee	Limits
S5001	Prescription Drug, Brand	\$10.00	1 per day

The COVID-19 oral antiviral treatments are being purchased by the federal government. Pharmacies may not bill the MA Program for products they receive at no cost. At such time as COVID-19 oral antiviral treatments receive full FDA approval and are no longer available to pharmacies at no cost, pharmacies shall not submit claims to the MA Program using procedure code S5001, but may instead submit claims for the drug ingredient and professional dispensing fee using the NCPDP standard claim format or the 837P standard claim format using the National Drug Code (NDC) and NDC units for the COVID-19 oral antiviral treatment that is dispensed.

RESOURCES:

[PA Department of Health Prevention and Treatment of COVID-19](#)
[Merck's molnupiravir product information](#)
[Pfizer's Paxlovid product information](#)