

eDispenseTM is the Easy Way to Bill for In-Office Administered Vaccines

When CMS mandated last year that vaccine administration fees be covered under the Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit, we were concerned that our providers may be burdened with manual billing and paper claims for covered vaccines that are administered in the office.

To reduce that burden, we contracted with **eDispense Part D Vaccine Manager**, a product of Dispensing Solutions, Inc., which is a Web portal offering our providers real-time claims processing for vaccine costs and administration fees that are allowed under Part D.* Payment to providers for submitted claims are made once a month.

When using **eDispense** to file a Medicare Part D vaccine claim, providers must be willing to accept the plan's amount—which includes the member's copayment—as payment in full for the vaccine.

*E-vaccines cannot be used to bill for the administration and cost of Medicare Part B covered vaccines such as influenza vaccine, pneumococcal vaccine, and Hepatitis B vaccine under specific conditions.

Enrollment in this service, which is free for our providers, is a one-time process.

Go to the Web site:

<http://enroll.edispense.com>

Once you are enrolled, you'll also be able to:

- Verify members' eligibility and benefits in real-time
- Advise members of their appropriate out-of-pocket expense
- Submit vaccine claims electronically
- Receive reimbursement information in real-time

For more information

regarding **eDispense** or immunizations payment policies, visit the Web site:

<http://www.dispensingsolutionsinc.com> or
call 1-866-522-EDVM (3386).

Benefit Update: CMS Covers Shingles Vaccine

Shingles vaccine is now covered under CMS guidelines and can be administered under the following circumstances:

- For prevention of herpes zoster (shingles) in individuals age 61 and older
- Not indicated for treatment of zoster or postherpetic neuralgia
- No history of primary or acquired immunodeficiency states
- Not on immunosuppressive therapy
- Not indicated for women of child-bearing age
- Should NOT be administered to pregnant women

The pain of shingles can be excruciating and last for weeks. The rash may also lead to postherpetic neuralgia, a debilitating condition in which the skin remains painful and sensitive to touch for months or even years after the rash clears up. Shingles is most common in older adults; more than half the reported cases occur in adults over 60.