

PO Box 56099 Madison, WI 53705-9399 Business offices in Saint Louis, MO & Madison, WI

phone: 866-514-4194

TTY: 711

wellfirstbenefits.com

April 13, 2022

Dear WellFirst Health Provider:

Thank you for your continued dedication and commitment to providing high-quality care to our members during the public health emergency.

This notification contains information regarding:

- Reinstatement of Medicare Products Payment Sequestration.
- Second COVID-19 booster shot for eligible individuals.

Information in this notification applies to the following WellFirst Health products: ACA Individual, Medicare Advantage, and SSM Health Employee Health Plan Administrative Services Only (ASO) in Illinois, Missouri, and Oklahoma.

Medicare Products Payment Sequestration

WellFirst Health is reinstating provider payment sequestration amounts for Medicare Advantage products. In alignment with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the following payment adjustments will be applied:

- 1% payment adjustment beginning April 1, 2022, through June 30, 2022
- 2% payment adjustment beginning July 1, 2022

Second COVID-19 Booster Shot

On April 6, 2022, <u>CMS announced it will pay for a second COVID-19 booster shot</u> of either the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccines. This aligns with the <u>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) updated recommendations</u> regarding another booster for certain immunocompromised individuals and people ages 50 years and older who received an initial booster dose at least four months ago. Additionally, the CDC recommends that adults who received a primary vaccine and booster dose of Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccine at least four months ago can receive a second booster dose of a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.

Medicare enrolled beneficiaries are not responsible for copayment, coinsurance, or deductible for COVID-19 vaccines or boosters.

Additional Health Plan Information

For additional health plan information and previous provider communications, refer to our <u>COVID-19 provider information web page</u> link located at the top of all <u>wellfirstbenefits.com</u> web pages. Providers are encouraged to check our website regularly for new and updated information.

Please contact a WellFirst Health Provider Network Consultant at 314-994-6262 or ProviderRelations@wellfirstbenefits.com.

Thank you for your continued dedication and commitment to the health and well-being of our members during this public health emergency.

Sincerely,

Loretta A. Lorenzen

Vice President- Network Management & Contracting