

Monthly Provider Update

April 2025

Go Paperless! Get the Monthly Provider Update by Email

Providers can now sign up to receive monthly updates via email by filling out [the form on our Bulletins page](#).



Did you miss an update? You can locate Monthly Provider Updates from previous months and applicable supplemental bulletins in the **archive section of the Bulletins page**, or see full details of any ongoing reminders on the **Ongoing Reminders page**.

Please be sure to regularly check the **Bulletins page** on mimeridian.com for important **Medicaid and Medicare-Medicaid Plan (MMP)** provider updates. Policy changes, fee schedule updates, and urgent notices are posted throughout the month.

This month, we have important updates about **upcoming events**, recently **updated clinical policies** and **clinical practice guidelines**, preventative **health reminders for Hepatitis C and Chlamydia testing**, and upcoming **CE-eligible education opportunities**.

Upcoming Webinars and Events

Additional details and links to 2025 webinars are available on our [bulletins page](#)

Monthly Provider Webinars:

- Wednesday, May 7, 9-10 am EST
- Wednesday, June 4, 9-10 am EST

Bi-Weekly Provider Orientation Webinars:

- Thursday, April 17, 12 pm EST
- Thursday, May 15, 8 am EST

Meridian Patient Experience Provider Summit

Meridian is **hosting a Provider Summit** highlighting how Meridian and Providers can work together to make a positive impact. Enjoy light refreshments and network with other providers. Office managers and administration staff also welcome to attend. We are **offering a \$100 Walmart gift card per practice** as a token of appreciation for your participation in the summit.

Kalamazoo Patient Experience Provider Summit

May 16, 2025, 1-4 pm

Hosted at The Desenberg

251 East Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Market-Wide Updates

Updated Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) Now Available

Providers are encouraged to review the **recently updated Clinical Practice Guidelines** to stay current with the latest evidence-based recommendations. These updates reflect **new research, evolving standards of care, and best practices to support optimal patient outcomes**. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with the changes, **summarized on our bulletins page**.

Recommendations for Hepatitis C Testing Among Perinatally Exposed Infants and Children

At Meridian, we're committed to helping providers get involved in making a difference. Take a moment to watch the CDC's **Recommendation for Hepatitis C Testing webinar** and stay informed. This webinar discusses ways to increase identification and treatment of children with perinatally acquired HCV infection by encouraging **implementation of the perinatal hepatitis C recommendations**. Please see our bulletins page for a **direct link to the CDC's webinar video**.

Preventative Health Reminder: Chlamydia Screenings

Meridian recommends completing **chlamydia screenings as a high value but underused preventative service**. Have questions about management and treatment? See our bulletins page for a direct link to the National Network of STD Clinical Prevention Training Centers **for training, curricula, and webinars (including CE-eligible training)** available at no cost to providers.

Meridian (Michigan Medicaid) Updates

New Authorization Requirement: Out-of-Network Providers

To ensure our members continue to receive high-quality, coordinated care, we are implementing a **new authorization requirement for out-of-network providers** under our Medicaid line of business. **Effective 5/1/2025, out-of-network providers will be required to obtain authorization** before rendering services to our members. Please see our bulletins page for more details and a list of excluded services.

Racial Disparities in Chlamydia Screening for Women (CHL)

Meridian is dedicated to **eradicating racial disparities in chlamydia screenings for women**. African American women are **screened at significantly higher rates** than White women, highlighting systemic inequities in care. To address these disparities, Meridian emphasizes the importance of **testing all sexually active women 16-24 years of age for chlamydia**, regardless of race or ethnicity. Annual screenings should not be limited to those deemed "high risk" but should be included as a **standard preventive measure for all eligible women**. For more information and tips on eliminating chlamydia screening disparities, please see our bulletins page.

(Medicaid updates continued on next page)

Newly Adopted Clinical Policies

Effective May 16, 2025, Meridian will be **implementing the following clinical policies**:

CP.MP.164 - Caudal or Interlaminar Epidural Steroid Injections
CP.MP.166 - Sacroiliac Joint Interventions for Pain Management
CP.MP.167 - Intradiscal Steroid Injections for Pain Management
CP.MP.169 - Trigger Point Injections for Pain Management
CP.MP.171 - Facet Joint Interventions
CP.MP.173 - Implantable Intrathecal or Epidural Pain Pump
CP.MP.174 - Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy for Spasticity in Cerebral Palsy
MI.CP.MP. 165 - Selective Nerve Root Blocks and transformational Epidural Steroid Injections
MI.CP.MP.170 - Nerve Blocks and Neurolysis for Pain Management
CP.MP.93 - Bone Anchored Hearing Aid
CP.MP.100 - Allergy Testing and Therapy
CP.MP.155 - EEG in the Evaluation of Headache
CP.MP.157 25 - Hydroxyvitamin D Testing in Children and Adolescents
CP.MP.184 - Home Ventilators

Thank you for your continued partnership with Meridian. A complete list of our clinical policies can be found on the Clinical and Payment Policies page.

SEMPQIC 3-Day Workshop: Optimizing Community Engagement in Health Care

The Southeast Michigan Perinatal Quality Improvement Coalition (SEMPQIC) is hosting a **virtual training series on May 7, 14, and 28**. Led by Dr. Vicki T. Sapp, PhD, this course **qualifies for 7.25 hours of continuing education credits** for nursing, social work, CHW, CHES or physicians (CME) by **attending the 3-part series**. See our bulletins page for the informational flyer and a link to register.

Low Birth Weight Project

The Low Birth Weight measure is a **CMS Core Set measure defined as the percentage of infants weighing less than 2,500 grams at birth**. Meridian is committed to **reducing the prevalence of low birth weight infants**. Providers can help by **ensuring members' early access to prenatal care** in the first trimester and addressing members' high stress, mental health, smoking, alcohol and drug use, and other SDoH needs. Please see the bulletins page for more details.

MDHHS Pregnancy Management Measures

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) prioritizes the Pregnancy Management Measure, which is **a set of health screenings recommended for all pregnant individuals**. Measures include testing of **sexually transmitted infections and Group B Streptococcus testing at least once during pregnancy**, and **retesting in first or second month of the third trimester for Syphilis, HIV, and Hepatitis B**. To learn more about the measures MDHHS recommends for pregnant individuals and best practices, please see our bulletins page.

In Case You Missed It

Additional details can be found on our [Ongoing Reminders Page](#)

- **Recent Prior Authorization, Billing, and Policy Updates:**
 - Prior Authorization Required for B4162, S9379, B4155, O200T, O201T, B4162, 22899 (Effective 4/20/2025)
 - Electric Tumor Treating Fields Clinical Policy (Effective 1/17/2025)
- The **CAHPS Survey season** takes place from February-June annually and the interactions you have with your patients makes an impact. We all play an important role in impacting our members' experience and members have the opportunity to share their experiences in the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) survey.
- The **Barrier Removal Fund** program is a partnership between Centene and the National Council of Independent Living (NCIL). This partnership is committed to providing equal access to quality health care and services that are physically and programmatically accessible for our members with disabilities and their companions. Please see our bulletins page for details on eligibility requirements to **apply for the Barrier Removal Fund grant funding for Michigan**.
- Effective January 1, 2025, Meridian will **no longer offer the Weight Watchers benefit**. Members interested in weight management can seek services through **Meridian's Lifestyle Management Program**.
- **Flu season** is here, and it's time for everyone to get **up to date on vaccinations**. With your patient's trust and their best interest at heart, it's up to you to **recommend they get their flu vaccine** as the best way to protect themselves and those around them.
- **Hepatitis C Virus Program:** The **recommended treatment for HCV is Mavyret**, which can be dispensed in eight-week supply. Providers who have prescriptive authority can prescribe Mavyret to their patients with a positive Hepatitis C diagnosis. **Prior authorization is not required for Medicaid**.
- **Medicare-Medicaid Plan (MMP) Dedicated Care Management:** All MMP members have a **dedicated care manager** who is a registered nurse or licensed social worker **assigned to support them with their healthcare needs**, navigating the healthcare system, and assisting with resources for SDoH needs.