

# Monthly Provider Update

November 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**.

This month, we have important updates about **upcoming changes to prior authorizations, training and education opportunities for doulas and MIHP providers**, updates regarding **Electronic Visit Verification**, and end-of-year **reminders for appointment agendas**.

## Market-Wide Updates

### Availity Essentials Webinar for Doula Providers

**Webinars for Doula providers have been officially scheduled by Availity!** In these sessions, Availity will cover:

- Adding your information to Manage My Organization
- Assigning roles
- Checking Eligibility & Benefits Inquiry
- Setting your Reporting Preferences
- Submitting a claim via Claims & Encounters
- Following up on your claim via Claim Status and Send and Receive EDI Files

For **more info on Availity registration and a full webinar schedule**, please see our Bulletins page.



### Upcoming Events

Additional details, registration information, and links to 2025 webinars are on our bulletins page

**Monthly Provider Webinar**  
**Wednesday, December 3, 9-10 am EST**

**Virtual Doula and MIHP Workshop**  
*A Virtual Workshop on Maternal and Infant Health.*  
**December 5, 2025 | 12-2 pm EST**

### Provider Continuity of Care (CoC) Program Reminder

As we approach the final quarter of the year, we're entering a **critical phase of the Continuity of Care (CoC) program**. To support you in this effort, we've **refined the appointment agenda to focus on the most urgent and actionable opportunities** with a particular emphasis on risk adjustment conditions. For details on this streamlined approach, please see the Bulletins page.

## Meridian (Medicaid) Updates

### Soft Launch of Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) for Medicaid Managed Care Home Health Care Services (HHCS) Ending December 31, 2025

On January 1, 2026, MDHHS will implement a **hard cutover to EVV for managed care HHCS codes requiring EVV**. The hard cutover applies to all Dates of Service on or after September 3, 2024. **At hard cutover**, these EVV services **must be billed through the state's EVV system only**. For an overview of how to generate invoices and export electronic billing claims, Michigan Comprehensive Health Care Program (CHCP) is **hosting a webinar on December 9<sup>th</sup>**. For more information on the EVV transition and upcoming webinar, please see our bulletins page.

### Prior Authorization Update: Behavioral Health Visit Limits

**Effective January 1, 2026**, Meridian Health Plan of Michigan will implement a **prior authorization (PA) requirement for behavioral health services after a member's 24<sup>th</sup> visit** within a benefit period. This change aligns with Meridian's ongoing commitment to ensure members receive appropriate, clinically necessary care while supporting high-quality outcomes. Please see our Bulletins page for additional details.

### MI AIM Severe Hypertension Bundle Initiative

The Michigan Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (MI AIM) equips hospitals with standardized best practices to **ensure safe births, improve prenatal and postpartum outcomes, and save lives**. Achieving these goals requires the commitment of the entire birthing community. Your hospital's participation is critical in protecting mothers and babies from preventable complications and mortality.

Meridian is committed to **advancing equitable birthing outcomes**. As a proud partner and supporter of MI AIM safety bundles, **later this fall we will be launching a Free Blood Pressure & WiFi-Enabled Tablet Initiative** to strengthen hospital compliance and improve outcomes for the **Severe Hypertension in Pregnancy Safety Bundle**. The initiative focuses on improving 3-day and 7-day post-discharge follow up visits for perinatal patients discharged after a hypertension-related hospitalization. For more information and an application form, please see our bulletins page.

### Updated Prior Authorization Response Time Requirements

On January 1, 2026, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will implement new prior authorization response time requirements for all providers.

- **Standard prior authorization requests** will be completed **within 7 calendar days**, with a possible extension up to 14 calendar days under certain circumstances.
- **Expedited/Urgent prior authorization requests** will be completed **within 3 calendar days** of receipt of the request.

For more information about this update, please see our Bulletins page.

### November 2025 Clinical Policy Review (Effective 1/1/2026)

**Several clinical policies have undergone an annual review** with some added criteria requirements that **may impact the prior authorization process**. Please see the revision log within each policy to review the changes. For more details and a **full list of affected policies**, please see our bulletins page.

## Introducing the Health Insurance Portal App for Members

Meridian is launching a **mobile app for Member Portal access**. Members can **update their Primary Care Provider, view their benefits, and access their Meridian Member ID cards from their smartphone** on iOS and Android. Simply search the applicable app store for “Health Insurance Portal,” to download the app.

## Biosimilar Recommendations to Michigan Meridian Medicaid Prescribers

Providers are encouraged to **adjust their prescribing practice for MI Medicaid beneficiaries to utilize the newly preferred biosimilar product adalimumab-adbm** (unbranded Cyltezo) in place of brand name Humira, as well as biosimilars Pyzchiva (ustekinumab-ttwe) or Steqeyma (ustekinumab-stba) for patients newly starting therapy with adalimumab, effective on 11/01/2025. **Providers should consider converting their patients who are already established on brand name Humira to the biosimilar product adalimumab-adbm** (unbranded Cyltezo), or those who are established on Stelara to biosimilars of Pyzchiva (ustekinumab-ttwe) or Steqeyma (ustekinumab-stba) starting on and after 11/01/2025. For more information, please see our Bulletins page.

## Michigan Medicaid Care Management Programs

Meridian delivers **focused, member-centered care management programs** designed to support the comprehensive health needs of Michigan Medicaid beneficiaries. **Our programs address physical, behavioral, oral, and social health** — including health-related social needs (HRSN) — to promote whole-person care. See our bulletins page for **an overview of available services aimed at connecting Meridian members with the right support at the right time**.

## Inside the Patient Perspective

**Clear, respectful, and empathetic communication** is one of healthcare’s most powerful tools. Read Volume 3 of our **Inside the Patient Perspective series, Doctor–Patient Communication – The Foundation of Trust and Better Care**, available on our bulletins page.

## Pediatric Oral Health

Did you know you can get **reimbursed for oral health screenings and fluoride varnish services** for patients aged zero to three? **Fluoride varnish can be successfully integrated into medical practice** with the commitment and openness of PCPs and staff, along with motivating training. Ready to begin? Visit [www.SmilesforLifeOralHealth.org](http://www.SmilesforLifeOralHealth.org) for online courses and resources!

## Safe Sleep Program Notification

Meridian is sunsetting the Safe Sleep crib program effective 11/30/25. If Meridian patients need assistance finding baby supplies in your local area, please visit [meridian.findhelp.com](http://meridian.findhelp.com).

## In Case You Missed It

### Additional details can be found on our Ongoing Reminders Page

- We are preparing for our **2025 HEDIS Hybrid Project** that will run **from January 2026 to April 2026**. **Your office may be contacted** during this timeframe **for records with dates of service in 2025 and prior** that were not already captured by claims.
- **Flu season is approaching**, and **vaccinations remain one of the most effective ways** to protect patients and communities.
- **RSV Season 2025-2026:** Our pharmacy team has created a **summary of RSV-related immunization updates and information on coverage** under medical and pharmacy benefits for RSV vaccines and RSV monoclonal antibodies used for immunization.
- The **Michigan Medicaid SPDL Formulary** has been updated as of 8/1/2025. These changes include **drugs that have been added, removed, or had utilization management restrictions adjusted** for preferred and non-preferred medications
- **The coverage of certain insulin syringes and pen needle products** has changed as of 08/01/2025 for all members. **Effective on 08/01/2025, insulin syringes and pen needles other than Embecta (formerly known as B.D.) branded products have been removed from the formulary.**
- **Coverage of OneTouch Diabetic Test Strips has changed as of 10/01/2025** for all members. **Effective 10/01/2025, OneTouch Diabetic Test Strips have been removed from the formulary** (list of covered medications). Starting on 10/01/2025, the **preferred diabetic test strips and glucometers is Accu-Chek Guide Test Strips, along with Accu-Chek Guide and Guide Me branded glucometers.** This applies under the pharmacy benefit for Michigan Meridian Medicaid members.
- **Recent Prior Authorization, Billing, and Policy Updates:**
  - Prior Authorization required for certain skin substitute codes effective 10/16/2025 – see Ongoing reminders page for full list and more details.
  - New Clinical Policies effective 8/22/2025 – see Ongoing Reminders page for full list and more details.