



# ADVISORY

No. 266

October 29, 2024

## Coverage of Oral Antivirals for the Treatment of COVID-19 (2024 UPDATE)

This Advisory is an update to [Advisory No. 240-a](#).

**Effective November 1, 2024**, the Office of Pharmacy Services (OPS) will cover pharmacy claims of oral antivirals approved by the FDA for the treatment of COVID-19 for Fee-For-Service (FFS) participants. The two (2) FDA-authorized oral antivirals are Paxlovid (Nirmatrelvir and ritonavir) and Veklury (remdesivir). The EUA-approved antivirals will only be covered with prior authorization and only in certain cases.

The reimbursement methodology will continue to follow COMAR 10.09.03.07 and there will be a \$1.00 copayment for a prescription as per COMAR 10.09.03.05.

In an effort to give timely notice to the pharmacy community concerning important pharmacy topics, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), **Office of Pharmacy Services (OPS)** has developed the **Maryland Medicaid Pharmacy Program Advisory**.

To expedite information timely to the pharmacy and prescriber communities, an email network has been established which incorporates the email lists of the Maryland Pharmacists Association, EPIC, CARE, Long Term Care Consultants, headquarters of all chain drugstores and prescriber associations and organizations.

It is our hope that the information is disseminated to all interested parties. If you have not received this email through any of the previously noted parties or via MDH, please contact the OPS representative at 410-767-1455.