



Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

MCO Transmittal No. 214

Pharmacy Transmittal No. 213

Hospital Transmittal No. 310

Local Health Department Transmittal No. 19

Physician Transmittal No. 168

TO: Managed Care Organizations
Pharmacies
Hospitals
Local Health Departments
Physicians

FROM: Sandra Kick, Director *Sandra E. Kick*
Medical Benefits Management

RE: Temporary Coverage of Extencilline for Treatment of Congenital
Syphilis, Effective May 14, 2024

NOTE: Please ensure that the appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the content of this transmittal.

The purpose of this transmittal is to provide guidance about temporary coverage of the drug Extencilline to address the nationwide drug shortage of Bicillin L-A to prevent congenital syphilis in pregnancy. Effective May 14, 2024, Maryland Medicaid will now cover Extencilline (benzathine benzylpenicillin) until the Bicillin L-A shortage is resolved.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced temporary approval of the use of Extencilline. Extencilline has been determined to be equivalent to Bicillin L-A and is currently authorized and marketed in other countries. As an imported product, the labeling does not include serialization information, a box warning, or an "Rx only" statement.

For more information on Extencilline distribution and administration, please see the FDA letter to healthcare providers at <https://bit.ly/3UYzvxI>.

Clinical Considerations:

Bicillin L-A and Extencilline should be prioritized for pregnant people during the shortage. For more information on the guidance of syphilis treatment, please see the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance at <https://bit.ly/3WSl6Et>.

For Medical Billing:

HCPCS CODE	J0561- Injection, Penicillin G Benzathine, 100,000 units
Billable Units	1 Billable Unit = 100,000 Units of Penicillin G Benzathine
Max Units Allowed	24
Reimbursement	\$21.73/unit or acquisition costs

Electronic billing is not permitted for Extencilline. All Extencilline Fee-For-Service professional services claims must be submitted by paper to:

Maryland Medical Assistance Division of Claims Services
P.O. Box 1935
Baltimore, MD 21203

For the most current reimbursement information, please refer to the Professional Services Fee Schedule on the Medicaid Provider Program Resources and Fee Schedules at <https://health.maryland.gov/mmcp/Pages/Provider-Information.aspx>.

If you have questions regarding this transmittal, please contact mdh.professionalservicespolicy@maryland.gov.