



State of Vermont

Department of Vermont Health Access

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January 22, 2025

## **Important Notice: Pharmacy Billing for Blood Pressure Monitors**

Dear Medicaid Provider,

Effective January 24, 2025, the Vermont Medicaid Pharmacy program will no longer require prior approval for blood pressure monitors obtained through pharmacy providers. This change will allow members to more easily obtain blood pressure monitors at retail pharmacies.

The clinical criteria for medical necessity at a pharmacy will align with the DME coverage criteria. For details, refer to the clinical coverage criteria.

https://dvha.vermont.gov/sites/dvha/files/doc\_library/BloodPressureSet-Up%20for\_web.pdf

Claims will continue to be adjudicated in "real time" through the Pharmacy Point of Sale (POS) system and reimbursement for claims will continue to be priced at the "lower of" methodology as described in the <a href="Pharmacy Provider Manual">Pharmacy Provider Manual</a>. A Professional Dispensing Fee of \$11.13 may apply. This methodology ensures that blood pressure monitors are reimbursed at no more than the DME payment amount. Members are allowed one blood pressure monitor every 5 years.

For questions, please contact the Optum Pharmacy Help Desk at 1-844-679-5362. Vermont providers can also send inquiries via email to <a href="VermontHD@optum.com">VermontHD@optum.com</a>.

Thank you for your continued support of Vermont's clinical pharmacy programs.