

---

**State of Vermont****Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA)**

NOB 1 South, 280 State Drive

Waterbury, VT 05671-1010

March 21, 2022

**\*\*Attention Pharmacies and Prescribers\*\***  
**Important Information for Treatment Related to COVID-19**

To ensure that Vermont Medicaid members continue to have access to the medications they need and in response to evolving conditions related to COVID-19, the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) is implementing the following changes to its prescription drug benefits programs:

**Copayments do not apply to any treatments of underlying conditions that may complicate the treatment of COVID-19, effective October 22, 2021.**

- This includes treatments for what is now being referred to as “long-COVID” or “long haul” COVID-19.
- Copayments for COVID-19-related treatments do not apply while a Vermont Medicaid beneficiary is diagnosed with or presumed to have COVID-19.

**Instructions for Vermont Medicaid participating pharmacies and prescribers:**

- Prescribers shall write a memo/note on the prescription indicating it is being prescribed for treatment of COVID-19 or a COVID-19-related diagnosis.
- The pharmacist should contact the Change Healthcare Pharmacy Help Desk at 1-844-679-5362 for a copayment override. Please note this does not apply to medications covered by Medicare Part D.
- A copayment shall not be collected from the Medicaid member.

All approved treatments for COVID-19 do not have copayments and include the following: Molnupiravir, Paxlovid® (nirmatrelvir/ritonavir), Veklury® (remdesivir), and monoclonal antibodies (e.g. Sotrovimab). Additionally, medications which may be used to treat symptoms of COVID-19 have copayments waived. This includes antihistamines, cough suppressants, anti-febrile/analgesic medications, cough & cold combination products, inhalers, and leukotriene receptor antagonists. No override should be required.

Please reach out to the Change Healthcare Pharmacy Help Desk at 1-844-679-5362 or the DVHA Pharmacy Team at [AHS.DVHAPH@vermont.gov](mailto:AHS.DVHAPH@vermont.gov) if you have any further questions. Thank you for your continued support of Vermont’s pharmacy benefits programs.