



2023 Provider Newsletter

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Special Points of Interest:

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Important Announcements:

Required 2023 Model of Care Training Due

As a reminder, providers are required to review and attest to the Alterwood Advantage Model of Care Training each year. If you have not yet completed the 2023 Model of Care, please locate the training and attestation on the Providers section of our website. If you prefer to receive a copy of the Model of Care by email, contact your Provider Relations team at **providers@alterwoodhealth.com**. The 2024 Model of Care will be posted on our website soon.

Demographic Change Notification

It is important that you notify Alterwood Advantage of any organizational demographic changes, to include changes in location, phone/fax numbers, providers, practice name, etc. Please send written notice to **providers@alterwoodhealth.com** as soon as possible, including any applicable documentation to notify us of any changes.

New Resources

Please check the Providers section of our website for updated resources including:

- 2024 Part B Preferred Drug List
- 2024 Prior Authorization Grid
- 2024 Prior Authorization Changes
- 2024 Benefit Plans

Gaps in Care Reporting

Alterwood Advantage continues to improve our HEDIS reporting capabilities. We have begun to share our HEDIS Gaps in Care Reports with our provider network. You can use this report to identify and close gaps in preventive cares for your patients. If you have not yet received a Gaps in Care Report and would like a copy, please email **HEDIS@alterwoodhealth.com**. Also, please contact us with any other questions you may have about our Quality Program.

Insulin

Alterwood Advantage members' copay for a month of insulin is no more than \$35. This is applicable to formulary insulins that members self-administer with a syringe/pen (covered under Part D) or any insulin administered through an external insulin/infusion pump (covered under Part B). Our covered formulary insulins are listed in Alterwood Advantage's formularies found at www.AlterwoodAdvantage.com. Other insulins not listed in our formularies require a formulary exception and providers may call

Note: Members who receive Part D "Extra Help" (also referred to as Low Income Subsidy) will pay no more than \$10.35 (2023) and \$11.20 (2024) for a month supply of a formulary insulin. Extra Help does not apply to Part B coverage.

Vaccines

It's that time of the year! Alterwood Advantage members have no copayment for these vaccines.

The influenza (flu) vaccines during the 2023-2024 season will be quadrivalent (four components). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) preferentially recommend adults 65 years and older receive one of the higher dose or adjuvanted influenza vaccines (**Fluzone** High-Dose Quadrivalent vaccine, **Flublok** Quadrivalent recombinant flu vaccine, and **Fluad** Quadrivalent adjuvanted flu vaccine). Ideally, the flu vaccine should be offered in September or October, but still appropriate throughout the season as long as the flu viruses are circulating in our community. More details can be found at Summary of Recommendations (cdc.gov).

COVID-19 continues to circulate in our communities. We are at risk as the virus continues to change and new variants emerge. The updated formula of the 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccines is anticipated to work well against current circulating variants, including BA.2.86.

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) can be the cause of severe respiratory illness leading to hospitalizations and deaths. Alterwood now covers **Abrysvo** and **Arexvy**, the new vaccines for RSV in adults 60 years and older. Both are approved by the FDA as a single dose. The CDC recommends using shared clinical decision-making (SCDM) to assist in your discussions with your patients. Consider multiple factors such as your patient's risk of exposure to RSV and their underlying medical conditions that places them at increased risk.

Please reach out to your Alterwood Advantage patients about these important vaccinations (or discuss these vaccines with your Alterwood Advantage patients at their next visit this Fall). The benefits of these vaccines continue to outweigh any potential risks.

References:

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/acip/summary/summary-recommendations.htm>

<https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/whats-new/covid-vaccine-recommendations-9-12-2023.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/rsv/public/older-adults.html>

2024 Update from Alterwood:

It has been a wonderful year at Alterwood Advantage as we have continued to grow both our provider network and membership. Thank you to you, our providers in partnering with Alterwood Advantage in caring for our members, now and into 2024.