



Division of Medical Services P.O. Box 1437, Slot S401 Little Rock, AR 72203-1437 P: 501.682.8292 F: 501.682.1197 HUMANSERVICES.ARKANSAS.GOV

MEMORANDUM (DMS-07)

To: Pharmacists and Prescribers

From: Division of Medical Services (DMS)

Date: March 23, 2020

Re: Aerochamber Refills during COVID0-19 Outbreak

Amended on May 19, 2020

This guidance ends at the expiration of the public health emergency as declared by the Governor of Arkansas.

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak in Arkansas, **DMS is allowing pharmacies to dispense one (1)** additional aerochamber to beneficiaries under age twenty (20). Currently, Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board policy limits children to one (1) aerochamber per year. With this edit lift, children will be able to receive two (2) in one calendar year, if the second aerochamber is received during the public health emergency. This will ensure that children on Medicaid receive needed respiratory drugs during the time of the COVID-19 outbreak.

The edit allowing for the additional aerochamber will be in effect for thirty (30) days beginning on March 20, 2020. The suspended rule may be extended for an additional thirty days, as needed.

To ensure quality and consistency of care to Medicaid beneficiaries, DMS will coordinate with the Office of the Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG) to conduct retrospective reviews and audits aerochambers dispensed during this time. Please keep all records of services as required by Medicaid billing rules.