

Over the counter contraception for Apple Health clients

Apple Health (Medicaid) covers over the counter (OTC) contraception, including most emergency contraception, with or without a prescription for clients. An adjudicated pharmacy claim is required for reimbursement.

How do I bill for OTC contraceptives?

To bill the OTC contraceptives, pharmacies must follow the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) standard and use the national drug code (NDC) or universal product code (UPC) found on the package. A prescription for OTC contraceptives is not required. When there is no prescription, use the pharmacist NPI or, when the health plan's system can accept, the pharmacy NPI.

What OTC contraceptives are covered?

For a list of covered OTC birth control products, see the [Apple Health covered OTC contraceptive list](#).

Does this include emergency contraception (morning after pill)?

Yes, emergency contraceptives are covered.

Are there limitations on OTC contraception?

No, there are no limits on age, gender/gender identity, quantity, or frequency.

Do pharmacies need to screen clients to provide OTC contraceptives?

No, there is no screening process required for provision of contraceptives approved by the FDA for OTC distribution; however, pharmacists are required to provide counseling for emergency contraception.

Do emergency fills apply to OTC contraceptives?

Yes. The dispensing pharmacist may use their professional judgment to meet a patient's urgent medical need, such as a medication that needs to be taken within a specific timeframe, by **issuing an emergency fill to the client**. For fee-for-service, see the [Apple Health Emergency Fill Policy](#): HCA guarantees payment on claims meeting the emergency fill policy even in circumstances where OTC birth control products do not have federal rebate on the Apple Health Covered OTC Contraceptive List. For Managed Care emergency fill information, contact the client's [health plan](#).

Do clients need to have their insurance card to access OTC contraceptives?

No, clients do not need to have their insurance card present to bill insurance. Pharmacies can verify eligibility using the ProviderOne Provider portal or by submitting a claim through their point-of-sale system.

Additional information

For more information to help patients find the birth control that's right for them, visit [the Department of Health birth control and emergency contraception page](#).

Contact

For questions, contact your patient's [health plan](#) or email applehealthpharmacypolicy@hca.wa.gov.