

# **Mosquito Repellent is Available as a Statewide Benefit**

Texas Health and Human Services covers select mosquito repellents for the prevention of Zika virus. The following notice describes how clients may access mosquito repellent through Medicaid and other state programs, and provides essential information for prescribers regarding the mosquito repellent benefit.

## **Covered programs**

1. Medicaid
2. Children's Health Insurance Program
3. CHIP-Perinatal
4. Healthy Texas Women program
5. Children with Special Health Care Needs services program
6. Family Planning Program
7. Title V Prenatal Medical fee-for-service program

## **Program specifics**

### **Medicaid and CHIP**

Pharmacies that dispense mosquito repellent to people enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP with this won't require a prescription from their healthcare provider. Texas Medicaid and CHIP clients can get mosquito repellent at a participating Medicaid-enrolled pharmacy.

### **HTW Program**

Eligible women in the HTW Program may obtain mosquito repellent from a participating Medicaid-enrolled pharmacy, without a prescription.

## **CSHCN Services Program**

People enrolled in the CSHCN program must have a prescription from their health care provider to get mosquito repellent from a participating Medicaid-enrolled pharmacy.

## **Family Planning Program Clients**

People enrolled in the Family Planning program may pick up mosquito repellent at a participating Family Planning Program clinic. No prescription is required. Prescribers with questions may contact the Family Planning Program at [FamPlan@hpsc.state.tx.us](mailto:FamPlan@hpsc.state.tx.us).

## **Title V Prenatal Medical Fee for Service Program**

Eligible women enrolled in the Title V Prenatal Medical Fee for Service Program may pick up mosquito repellent at a participating Title V Prenatal Medical Fee for Service clinic. No prescription is required. Contractors with questions may contact the Title V Fee for Service Program at [Mike.Bright@hpsc.state.tx.us](mailto:Mike.Bright@hpsc.state.tx.us).

## **Benefit Details**

### **Eligible population**

- Females ages 10 to 55 and pregnant women of any age
- Males 14 and older

### **Benefit limits**

One can or bottle of mosquito repellent per prescription fill, with one additional refill allowed per client, per calendar month beginning Feb. 12.

## **Prescribing Mosquito Repellent:**

### **Recommended prescription details**

Drug Name: "Mosquito repellent"

- Mosquito repellent will be treated as a generic medication and pharmacies will have the authority to fill the prescription with any covered product.

- Please specify the active ingredient if your patient can't tolerate one and note "Do not substitute."

Directions: Use topically, as directed.

Quantity: One (1) can/bottle

Refills: 11

- Prescribers should send prescriptions to pharmacies via phone, fax or electronic prescription to minimize office visits.
- Prescribers should not schedule office visits solely for clients to obtain a mosquito repellent prescription, unless medically necessary.
- Prescribers should consider offering mosquito repellent prescriptions to eligible clients at any pre-scheduled office visits to minimize follow up requests for mosquito repellents.
- Recommendations for children: mosquito repellent should not be used in infants younger than 2 months. A mosquito repellent containing oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used for a child 2-years-old or younger. Concentrations of mosquito repellent are recommended to contain no more than 30 percent N,N-Diethyl-meta-toluamide (DEET), 20 percent picaridin, 30 percent oil of lemon eucalyptus, or 20 percent IR3535 for a child 17 or younger.
- For people enrolled in the CSHCN Services Program, and people unable to access a pharmacy operating under the standing order, prescribers should include the above recommended prescription details when prescribing mosquito repellent to help minimize requests for clarification from pharmacies or requests for refills for mosquito repellent.
- People enrolled in the HTW program don't require a standing order or prescription. Pharmacies have been provided with claims submission instructions for the HTW Program.

## Covered products

Covered products have been selected based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and include the recommended amount of the active ingredient. Please download the [Mosquito Repellent Benefit Products Assistance Chart \(PDF\)](#) for a current list of covered mosquito repellents.

## Other Benefits Available Through Texas Medicaid

The following benefits are covered under current Texas Medicaid and may be helpful to clients who contract the Zika virus:

- Family planning services
- Contraceptives, including long-acting reversible contraceptives
- Diagnostic testing
- Targeted case management
- Physical therapy
- Long-term services and support
- Acetaminophen and oral electrolytes for Zika symptoms
- Potential coverage for additional ultrasounds for pregnant women

## Additional Resources

- Texas Department of State Health Services
  - ▶ [TexasZika.org](http://TexasZika.org)
  - ▶ [TexasZika.org/labs.htm](http://TexasZika.org/labs.htm) - about Zika testing
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
  - ▶ [cdc.gov/zika/](http://cdc.gov/zika/)
- Texas Vendor Drug Program
  - ▶ [txvendordrug.com/formulary/formulary/mosquito-repellent](http://txvendordrug.com/formulary/formulary/mosquito-repellent)
  - ▶ [txvendordrug.com/providers/eligibility](http://txvendordrug.com/providers/eligibility)

## Questions?

For people enrolled in managed care, refer to MCO-specific provider line.

For people enrolled in Medicaid fee-for-service, email questions to [VDP\\_Formulary@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:VDP_Formulary@hhsc.state.tx.us).