

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 2585-MC-FFS

DATE: May 30, 2024

TO: All Iowa Medicaid Medical Providers

APPLIES TO: Managed Care (MC), Fee-for-Service (FFS)

FROM: Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Iowa Medicaid

RE: Avastin® (bevacizumab) Billing

EFFECTIVE: January 1, 2023

*****This informational letter (IL) updates previous guidance in [IL No. 2564-MC-FFS¹](#) dated March 8, 2024*****

Avastin® (bevacizumab) was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 2004 to treat metastatic colon cancer. Based on published reports and widespread clinical use, including the support of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, there is compelling evidence of bevacizumab's safety and efficacy for off-label intravitreal use in choroidal neovascularization in age-related macular degeneration (AMD), proliferative diabetic retinopathy, neovascular glaucoma, diabetic macular edema (DME), retinal and iris neovascularization and macular edema following branch and central retinal vein occlusions.

The following guidance applies only to Avastin® (bevacizumab) and **does not** apply to biosimilars of Avastin®.

Below is a list of the current available code options for Avastin® ophthalmological use.

| HCPCS | Definition | NDCs | Appropriate Setting |
|--------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| J9035 | Injection, bevacizumab, 10 mg | 50242006001 | Office and Outpatient |
| | | 50242006101 | |

¹ [https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/imp/Information/ViewDocument.aspx?viewdocument=\(c8853e8f-71ab-461f-b876-0eb7892d7554\)](https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/imp/Information/ViewDocument.aspx?viewdocument=(c8853e8f-71ab-461f-b876-0eb7892d7554))

| HCCPS | Definition | NDCs | Appropriate Setting |
|-------|---|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| C9257 | Injection, bevacizumab, 0.25 mg | 50242006001 | Hospital Outpatient |
| | | 50242006101 | |
| J7999 | Compounded drug, not otherwise classified | 50242006001 | Office |
| | | 50242006101 | |
| J3590 | Unclassified biologics | 50242006001 | Commercial primary carrier claims |
| | | 50242006101 | |

J7999 is an unspecified code (i.e., “dump code”). The rate of \$76 per unit will need to be applied when the claim is manually priced. In addition, J7999 is assigned to status code indicator “N,” which means the service is packaged and not separately payable in an Outpatient setting.

Some primary carriers may require the utilization of HCPCS code J3590. Iowa Medicaid will accept code J3590 as a crossover claim when the primary carrier requires the use of that code.

If using an individual dose of Avastin® (bevacizumab) prepared by an FDA-registered 503B outsourcing facility, **submit the NDC of the active medication** (Avastin®). Outsourcing facilities may, but are not required to, assign NDCs to their finished compounded human drug products, but these NDCs are not eligible for rebate under the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program.

As a reminder, per [IL No. 2475-MC-FFS²](#), effective for dates of service on and after January 1, 2017, providers and suppliers are required to report the **JW** modifier on all claims that bill for drugs and biologicals with unused and discarded amounts from single-dose containers or single-use packages. Effective for dates of service on and after July 1, 2023, providers and suppliers are required to report the **JZ** modifier on all claims that bill for drugs from single-dose containers when there are no discarded amounts.

For FFS and MCO prior authorization requirements, the provider should contact the appropriate payor.

If you have questions, please contact Iowa Medicaid Provider Services or the appropriate MCO:

Iowa Medicaid Provider Services:

- Phone: 1-800-338-7909
- Email: imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us

Managed Care Organizations (MCOs):

² <https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/IMPA/Information/ViewDocument.aspx?viewdocument=f7bdaf0e-08a8-4cd0-810a-8a3b28744eb4>



Iowa Total Care:

- Phone: 1-833-404-1061
- Email: providerrelations@iowatotalcare.com
- Website: <https://www.iowatotalcare.com>

Molina Healthcare of Iowa:

- Phone: 1-844-236-1464
- Email: iaproviderrelations@molinahealthcare.com
- Website: <https://www.molinahealthcare.com/providers/ia/medicaid/home.aspx>
- Provider Portal: <https://www.availity.com/molinahealthcare>

Wellpoint Iowa, Inc. (formerly Amerigroup Iowa, Inc.):

- Phone: 1-833-731-2143
- Email: ProviderSolutionsIA@wellpoint.com
- Website: <https://www.provider.wellpoint.com/iowa-provider/home>