



State of New Jersey
 Department of Human Services
 Division of Medical Assistance & Health Services

NEWSLETTER

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TO: Physicians and Independent Clinics - **For Action**
 Health Maintenance Organizations - **For Information Only**

SUBJECT: Coverage of Viscosupplementation with Synvisc and Hyalgan in the Treatment of Osteoarthritis of the Knee

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

BACKGROUND: Hyaluronan Acid, a viscous agent, has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as an important option for the treatment of osteoarthritis of the knee nonresponsive to conservative therapy, such as analgesics, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), or intra-articular corticosteroid injections.

ACTION: Effective immediately, the NJ Medicaid program will reimburse physicians and independent clinics for the use of these agents in conjunction with HCPCS codes, as described below:

20610	Arthrocentesis, aspiration and/or injection major joint or bursa, and	\$13.00
W9348	Synvisc (2 ml of hylan G-F 20); Limit: three doses for one cycle of treatment per knee for at least a period of six months, or	\$206.56 (per injection)
W9349	Hyalgan (20 mg sodium hyaluronate in 2 ml of phosphate buffer); Limit: five intra-articular injections at weekly intervals, for one cycle of treatment per knee for at least a period of six months	\$127.12 (per injection)

NOTE: An Evaluation and Management (E/M) office visit code will be reimbursed only when there is a separately identifiable E/M service rendered and it is clearly documented in the patient's medical record.

If you have any questions regarding this Newsletter, please contact the Office of Health Service Administration at (609) 588-2721.

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