



## Department of Health

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### **Attention Pharmacy Providers - Important Information Regarding Inhaled Corticosteroids in Children**

The incidence of viral-induced asthma exacerbations is increasing throughout the State and is currently very high due to SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), Influenza, Rhinovirus, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), and Human Metapneumovirus. Guidelines recommend first-line therapy with inhaled corticosteroids (ICS) in addition to a short-acting beta agonist (SABA) as needed for mild, persistent asthma. For children under 8 years old, an ICS delivered via a Metered Dose Inhaler (MDI) that can be used with a spacer and mask is needed.

Medicaid Fee-for-Service (FFS) will relax the prior authorization requirement for Asmanex HFA in non-preferred status, for children under 8, to ensure access to necessary medications during the COVID-19 State Disaster Emergency in NY, effective January 13, 2022.

For a complete listing of drugs in the Fee-for-Service Preferred Drug Program please visit [https://newyork.fhsc.com/downloads/providers/NYRx\\_PDP\\_PDL.pdf](https://newyork.fhsc.com/downloads/providers/NYRx_PDP_PDL.pdf).

For questions about the Medicaid FFS Pharmacy program, please contact: [ppno@health.ny.gov](mailto:ppno@health.ny.gov)

This information has also been communicated to the Medicaid Managed Care plans.

For specific Medicaid Managed Care plan formulary questions please contact the specific plan. A complete list of Medicaid Managed Care plans can be found at <https://mmcdruginformation.nysdoh.suny.edu/>.