STATE OF WASHINGTON

September 25, 2006

Dear Medicaid Providers:

Enclosed are guidelines on the recommended use and availability of two new vaccines – Rotavirus and Human Papillomavirus (HPV). The guidelines are based on recommendations issued by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice (ACIP). Until funding for these vaccines is approved by the legislature, Medicaid will only cover them through the Early Periodic and Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) program for children.

EPSDT billing instructions are available on line now in the Provider Publications section of the Health and Recovery Services Administration (HRSA) Web page at http://fortress.wa.gov/dshs/maa/download/cpt_agreement.htm. Medicaid will be issuing more specific instructions and fee schedules over the next couple of months. Complete billing instructions for Rotavirus should be issued within the next 90 days. HPV billing instructions will be issued later, once the ACIP recommendations for that vaccine are finalized.

The Department of Health submitted a funding request to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) for consideration by the 2007 State Legislature to implement Rotavirus and HPV vaccines as a part of Washington's universal policy for childhood vaccines. If approved, the funding may be available through the universal program in the spring of 2007. HRSA is preparing a legislative budget request to cover the cost of the vaccines for Medicaid-eligible children during the time prior to the vaccines being available through the state's universal childhood vaccine program.

We appreciate your participation in the Medicaid program and your support in providing these critical services to Medicaid clients. If you have any questions, please call Margaret Wilson at 360-725-1658 or Janna Bardi, Immunization Program Manager at 360-236-3568.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Thompson, M.D., M.P.H.
Director/Chief Medical Officer
Division of Medical Management
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Maxine Hayes, M.D., M.P.H.
State Health Officer
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Enclosures

cc: Janna Bardi, Department of Health