meridian

September 2025

Monthly Provider Check-In

In this issue

- Wrapping up our 2025 Meet & Greets >
- Meridian at the Bud Billiken Parade >
- Introducing *Eat Well, Be Well* >
- Supporting members with developmental disabilities >
- Updated HEDIS tools >
- September Quality webinar >
- Pharmacy spotlight: Asthma >
- Blood pressure monitors >
- FQHC appreciation >
- Fee schedule updates, rate changes, & billing updates >
- In case you missed it >

Listening, learning, and celebrating you: Wrapping up our 2025 Meet & Greets

Our Meet & Greet event series for 2025 concluded last month. Meridian and YouthCare leaders traveled more than 800 miles to connect with hundreds of providers across Illinois. We capped off our final event in Oak Brook by honoring Meridian's inaugural Physician and Practitioner Award winners.

"We launched these town hall-style events to connect with providers in their communities and hear directly about their experiences working with us," says Nancy Robinson, Vice President of Provider Relations. "Your

feedback is incredibly valuable, and your commitment to our members is inspiring."

Putting healthy living on parade

Meridian's bright orange float was hard to miss at the 96th Bud Billiken Parade, the long-running tradition held August 9 on Chicago's South Side. In addition to offering free vision screenings, dozens of volunteers gave away recipe cards to promote our new Eat Well, Be Well initiative, which aims to promote access to nutritious, culturally relevant foods. Hear more from Karla Lewis, Director of Health Equity, who spoke with *ABC7 Chicago* at the parade.

Introducing *Eat Well, Be Well*

With one in four Illinois children at risk of hunger, Meridian's new Eat Well, Be Well initiative is a statewide effort to reduce food insecurity and help families make informed, affordable choices to support lifelong wellness. Features include:

- **Budget-friendly recipes** tailored to heart health, diabetes, and children's nutrition
- **Nutrition tips, prep guidance,** and **upcoming podcasts** on mindful eating and healthy grocery shopping on a tight budget
- Partnerships with central and southern **Illinois farmers' markets** and the **Greater Chicago Food Depository**

Eat Well, Be Well

New team supports adult members with developmental disabilities

As children with developmental disabilities (DD) age out of services, families and providers can struggle to navigate the transition to adult care. Meridian has launched a new case management team dedicated to supporting members with

DDs. Learn more about our new team, which offers seamless coordination of services and provides unique expertise in Illinois' waiver programs.

DD case management ↗

Tools you can use: New HEDIS® Quick Reference Guide

Level up your performance with helpful tools from our Quality Improvement team. Download our recently updated **HEDIS Quick Reference Guide (QRG)**, with new **medication safety measures** and **updated billing and diagnostic codes** for closing care gaps. And consult our **HEDIS Pocket Guides** for the most frequently used codes for pediatric and adult measures.

HEDIS QRG resources

September Quality education: Preventing pediatric suicide

To commemorate Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, our upcoming Quality webinar topic is **pediatric suicide prevention**—and the important role of primary care providers and their teams. **Join us for this live webinar hosted by the Centene Institute for Advanced Health Education**, which offers continuing education credits for multiple provider types.

Register: September 30, Noon – 1 p.m. ↗

Pharmacy spotlight: Updated Global Initiative for Asthma guidelines

The Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) provides evidence-based guidelines for health professionals that support personalized treatments and improved asthma management. Review our Pharmacy team's provider notice with updated GINA recommendations and Meridian's preferred drugs for asthma.

Key recommendations

Help members access blood pressure monitoring devices

Home blood pressure (BP) monitoring is associated with better BP control, which is why these devices are covered for members who need them. Use one of our in-network durable medical equipment (DME) providers; they offer statewide shipping and make the process easy.

In-network DME providers ↗

Recognizing our remarkable FQHCs

Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) serve roughly 1 in 6 people covered by Medicaid, including thousands of Meridian members. To show our appreciation during National Health Center Week in August, **our Provider Engagement team hand-delivered cookies and swag to staff at more than 200 health centers across the state**—a small way of extending a big thank you to our trusted FQHC partners.

Fee schedule updates, rate changes, & billing updates

Claim alerts and known issues are posted on our website, along with updates from Meridian about proactively reprocessing claims. Claims should not be resubmitted unless otherwise indicated. For billing questions, contact your assigned Provider Engagement representative. If your practice doesn't have an assigned representative, please complete our intake form.

- **Effective October 1 for FQHCs and rural health centers**, Meridian will update reimbursement methodology for Medicare-Medicaid Plan members.
- **Waiver providers should review our notice about billing changes effective August 1,** which reflects the removal of codes for respite agency services and skilled intermittent agencies that are not billable to managed care organizations.

In case you missed it

- **Psychiatric add-on payments for an Advanced Practice Nurse (APN)** can only be applied when the APN is registered with a psychiatric sub-specialty in the Illinois Medicaid Program Advanced Cloud Technology (IMPACT) system.
- Meridian data show meaningful improvements in birthing outcomes when members have a completed **Notification of Pregnancy (NOP): Learn how to submit an NOP on your patients' behalf**.

Meridian and our family of plans connect communities across the state to the whole-health care they need, right where they are.

meridian ambetter. wellcare YouthCare

Meridian complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex (including pregnancy, sexual orientation, and gender identity).

Contact us

ILmeridian.com

Meridian Provider Services
ILProviderRelations@mhplan.com
866-606-3700
(TTY: 711)
Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

1333 Burr Ridge Parkway, Suite 500, Burr Ridge, IL 60527
Privacy Policy Unsubscribe
©2025 Meridian. All Rights Reserved.