Ask the Expert: Covid-19 Vaccines

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Agenda

- What is available?
- Who can administer the vaccine?
- Cost of vaccines: Do’s and Don’ts
- COVID-19 vaccine CPT codes
- Uninsured payment
- Medicare
- Medicare rates
- Medicaid
- Private health plans
What Is Available?

• Two shots
  • Pfizer
    • 16 years and older
    • 3 weeks apart
    • Fully vaccinated 2 weeks after 2nd shot
  • Moderna
    • 18 years and older
    • 4 weeks apart
    • Fully vaccinated 2 weeks after 2nd shot

• One Shot
  • Janssen
    • 18 years and older
Who Can Administer the Vaccine?

• Medical doctors
• Doctors of osteopathic medicine
• Nurse practitioners/Advanced practice nurses
• Physician assistants
• Certified nurse midwives

• Additionally, any medical professional granted authority by a signing physician:
  • Registered nurses
  • Licensed vocational nurses
  • Certified medical assistants
Cost of Vaccines: Do’s and Don’ts

• Do:
  • Seek reimbursement from private health plans, Medicare, Medicaid, and the COVID-19 Uninsured Program

• Don’t:
  • Charge patients for the vaccine or administration
  • Deny the vaccine due to patient’s insurance or economic status
  • Charge an office visit to provide the COVID-19 vaccine
  • Require additional medical or other services during the visit as a condition for getting a COVID-19 vaccination
## COVID-19 Vaccine CPT Codes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Vaccine Code</th>
<th>Administration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pfizer, Inc</strong></td>
<td>91300</td>
<td>0001A-1st dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0002A-2nd dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Moderna, Inc</strong></td>
<td>91301</td>
<td>0011A-1st dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0012A-2nd dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Janssen/Johnson&amp;Johnson</strong></td>
<td>91303</td>
<td>0031A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COVID-19 Vaccine CPT Codes for Administration

The CPT codes for the administration include:

• Practice expense costs of storage and ordering
• Counseling provided to patients or caregivers on the date the vaccine is administered
• Administering the vaccine
• Updating the electronic health record and the vaccine registry

Note: You will not report the immunization administration codes (90460-90461, 90471-90474) when administering a coronavirus vaccine.
CPT Coding for Vaccine Counseling

Coding options to account for time spent counseling patients on the COVID-19 vaccine in office or over telemedicine

• Check with your payers for guidance on their limitations.
• If you provide vaccine counseling on the day you also administer the vaccine to the patient, you may not report counseling separately.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICD-10-CM codes</th>
<th>CPT options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Z71.89 Other specified counseling</td>
<td>99201-99215 Office-based E/M service: based on time spent with the patient/caregiver.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z28.21 Immunization not carried out because of patient refusal</td>
<td>99401-99404 Preventive Medicine Counseling: based on time spent counseling (Note this code is not listed as an approved telehealth service). May not be used for group counseling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z28.82 Immunization not carried out because of caregiver refusal</td>
<td>99411-99412 Preventive Medicine Group Counseling: Used for group visits when discussing vaccine safety</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: American Academy of Pediatrics COVID-19 Vaccine Administration: Getting Paid
CPT Coding for Vaccine Counseling

Coding Tips

Do not report a 90460, 90461, 90471-90474 with any COVID-19 vaccine administration code.

• Report only one vaccine administration code per COVID-19 injection
• If you see the patient for a significant and separately identifiable E&M service in addition to the COVID-19 vaccine, append modifier 25 to the E&M service.

  EXAMPLE: You see a patient for a routine preventive medicine service (e.g., 99394), and she decides to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Report the 99394 and the appropriate product (as required) and the administration code only. Counseling is captured in the COVID-19 vaccine administration code.

• Your ICD-10-CM code for COVID-19 vaccine administration is Z23.

Source: American Academy of Pediatrics COVID-19 Vaccine Administration: Getting Paid
Uninsured Payment

• Health Resource and Services Administration’s COVID-19 Uninsured Program

• How it works
  • Enroll as a participant
  • Check patient eligibility
  • Submit patient information
  • Submit claims electronically
  • Receive payment through direct deposit
Coverage Assistance Fund

• Health Resource and Services Administration’s COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund

• How it works
  • Enroll as a participant
  • Submit claims to patient’s health plan carrier for payment
  • Submit denied or partially paid claim(s) to the CAF portal
    • Copay
    • Coinsurance
    • Deductible
    • Noncovered vaccine administration fees
Medicare

• Must be a Medicare provider
• Bill only the vaccine administration
• DO NOT include the vaccine code on the claim
• Submit all Medicare Advantage claims to original Medicare (Novitas Solutions)
**Medicare Rates**

- **National administration rate**
  - DOS through March 14, 2021
    - $16.94 – 1st dose
    - $28.39 – 2nd dose

- DOS on or after March 15, 2021
  - $40.00 – 1st and 2nd dose

- **Geographical adjusted administration rate**

**Example:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOS Dose</th>
<th>Through 3/14/2021</th>
<th>Through 3/14/2021</th>
<th>On or after 3/15/2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Admin Dose</td>
<td>0001A or 0011A</td>
<td>0002A or 0012A</td>
<td>0001A, 0011A, 0002A, 0012A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austin (31)</td>
<td>$17.57</td>
<td>$28.99</td>
<td>$41.31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Medicaid

• Rates:
  • DOS through March 14, 2021
    • $16.94 – 1st dose
    • $28.39 – 2nd dose
  • DOS on or after March 15, 2021
    • $40.00 – 1st and 2nd dose

• Must be enrolled as a Medicaid provider
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas

Coverage

• Fully-funded
  • Covered with no cost-share when delivered by either in-network or out-of-network physicians and providers

• Self-funded
  • Nongrandfathered-administration is covered as preventive
  • Grandfathered plans are not required to cover preventive services

• Rates
  • In-network – contract rates apply
  • Out-of-network – based on an out-of-network payment policy that follows Medicare rates

• Bill the vaccine on a separate claim when it is not the primary purpose of the visit
Coverage

• Includes both in-network and out-of-network physicians and providers

• The vaccine product code is not required to be on the claim.
  • If you include the vaccine on the claim, report it with $.01.

• Rate
  • In-network – contract rates apply
  • Out-of-network – based on the base maximum amount payable for an out-of-network physician or provider
Coverage

• Includes both in-network and out-of-network physicians and providers

• The vaccine product code is not required to be on the claim.
  • If you include the vaccine on the claim, report it with $.01.

• Rate
  • Cigna will pay the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine at the national CMS rates.
Aetna

Coverage

• Includes both in-network and out-of-network physicians and providers

• Aetna has not explicitly stated if the vaccine product code is to be billed on the claim.

• Rate: Aetna will apply rates that do not exceed CMS rates.
United Healthcare

• Coverage
  • Includes both in-network and out-of-network physicians and providers
  • Bill COVID-19 vaccine administration through the standard claims process.

• Rate
  • In-network – contract rates apply
  • Out-of-network – based on the national CMS rates
Resources

• Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
• Find your COVID-19 Vaccine CPT Codes
• HRSA COVID-19 Claims Reimbursement
• HRSA COVID-19 CAF Program
• J&J’s Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine
• 2021 COVID-19 Vaccine Reimbursement
• BCBSTX COVID-19 Vaccines and Coverage
• Medicare Billing for COVID-19 Vaccine Shot
Resources

- Humana COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ
- Cigna COVID-19 Resource
- UnitedHealthcare COVID-19 Vaccines
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Questions?
TMA Practice Consulting
(800) 523-8776
practice.consulting@texmed.org

Public Health Services