The *voice* of the community pharmacist.
Need-to-Knows for Administering COVID-19 Vaccines

December 10, 2020 | 8 p.m. ET

NCPA Staff Members
Breaking News!
Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine recommended for emergency use authorization
Work Group Proposed Interim Phase 1 Sequence

Phase 1a
Health care personnel
LTCF residents

Phase 1b
Essential workers
(examples: Education Sector, Food & Agriculture, Utilities, Police, Firefighters, Corrections Officers, Transportation)

Phase 1c
Adults with high-risk medical conditions
Adults 65+

Time
Billing: Medicare

- **Pharmacist** needs Type 1 NPI to order (prescribe) vaccine reimbursed by Medicare
  - National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES)
- **Pharmacy** needs to be enrolled as a Pharmacy or Mass Immunizer
  - Use pharmacy’s existing Type 2 NPI
  - Provider Enrollment, Chain, and Ownership System (PECOS)
- Medical billing intermediary needed
  - FDS, OmniSys, Change Healthcare, EBS
- $28.39 to administer single-dose vaccines.
- $16.94, and $28.39 for the administration of the initial dose(s) and final dose, respectively in the series.
Billing: Medicaid

• Reimbursement pathway and vaccine administration rates will vary state to state

• Claims could be covered on prescription benefit, the medical benefit, or both.

• If both pathways are available to the pharmacy, review vaccine administration reimbursement rates and make sure staff know which is preferred. Transaction fees and real-time adjudication may be factors in addition to the vaccine administration fee.

• All Medicaid programs, fee for service and managed care, are required to cover COVID vaccinations.
Billing: Commercial

• Out-of-network vaccine providers must be reimbursed.

• NOW is the time to check on enrollment for employer plans in your area that have limited networks.

• Claims could be covered on prescription benefit, the medical benefit, or both.

• If both pathways are available to the pharmacy, review vaccine administration reimbursement rates and make sure staff know which is preferred. Transaction fees and real-time adjudication may be factors in addition to the vaccine administration fee.
Billing: Uninsured

• COVID-19 vaccine providers can claim reimbursement for administering the vaccine to uninsured patients through a program overseen by HRSA
  • NOW is the time to sign up with Optum Pay (different from Optum Rx) if you plan to submit claims for this program.
  • HRSA has contracted with UnitedHealth Group to be the sole administrator of the Uninsured Program for COVID-19.

www.hrsa.gov/coviduninsuredclaim
Billing: Codes

• CPT Codes* - Talk to your medical billing intermediary about submitting claims for Medicare Part B and health plan medical benefits.
  b. Moderna – product: 91301, first dose 0011A, second dose: 0012A

• NCPDP - The guidance from NCPDP is not a mandate for PBMs, but many may implement the recommendations as published.
  a. One-dose COVID-19 vaccine: Use the actual liquid volume (e.g. 0.5 mL) for the Quantity Dispensed, a Days Supply of “1”, Professional Service Code “MA”, and Ingredient Cost of $0.00 or $0.01 (depending on the payer).
  b. Two-dose COVID-19 vaccine: Use the actual liquid volume (e.g. 0.5 mL) for the Quantity Dispensed, a Days Supply of “1”, Professional Service Code “MA”, Ingredient Cost of $0.00 or $0.01 (depending on the payer), and the appropriate SCC indicating which dose in the series as follows:
    i. Initial Dose use SCC of 2 “Other Override”
    ii. Final Dose use SCC of 6 “Starter Dose”

*As of 12/10/2020, codes are only available for the Pfizer and Moderna products.
Advocacy

• CMS prohibit patient steering by PBMs in regards to vaccine administration
• No differential payment based on vertical integration and PBM/pharmacy business agreements
• Need payment parity and pharmacy choice for success
Vaccine Kits

VaccineFinder

Locating Health

Register to List Your Organization

VaccineFinder or MedFinder Registration
For pharmacies and health organizations that provide vaccines or flu antiviral drugs to the public.
Learn more about the platforms:
VaccineFinder Factsheet
MedFinder Factsheet

To Report COVID-19 Vaccines:
For COVID-19 vaccination, you must coordinate with your organization or jurisdiction's immunization program.
To learn more, visit:
VaccineFinder COVID-19 Provider Resources
CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Provider Support

https://locating.health/register
Completion Status | Report an Adverse Event - Patient Information

Note: Fields marked with an * are essential and should be completed.

- Patient Information
- Reporter Information
- Facility Information
- Vaccine Information
- Additional Information

Item 1

Patient first name: 
Patient last name: 
Street address: 
City: 
State: 
Select State: 
County: 
Zip code: 
Phone: 
Email: 

Item 2

* Date of birth [mm/dd/yyyy] or [mm/yyyy]

Item 3

* Sex:
  - Male
  - Female
  - Unknown

Item 4

* Date of vaccination [mm/dd/yyyy] or [mm/yyyy]

Time: 

Item 5
V-SAFE

Vaccine safety assessment for essential workers (V-SAFE)

1. Text messages or email from CDC with follow-up – daily 1st week post-vaccination and weekly thereafter out to 6 weeks

2. Any clinically important event(s) reported by vaccinated person

3. Follow-up on clinically important event, complete a VAERS report if appropriate

VAERS call center

Healthcare workers, essential workers, etc.
IMPORTANT RESOURCES

• NCPA’s Coronavirus Resource Center
  https://ncpa.org/covid-testing

• CPESN COVID-19 Best Practices
  https://www.covidbestpractices.com/

• CDC Info for Healthcare Professionals about COVID-19

• Medicare Provider Enrollment (PECOS)
  https://pecos.cms.hhs.gov/pecos/login.do#headingLv1

• VaccineFinder Registration
  https://locating.health/register

• VAERS
  https://vaers.hhs.gov/esub/index.jsp
Questions?
SAVE THE DATE

• CMS is hosting a call for members on Medicare Provider Enrollment to bill for vaccines
  • Tuesday, Dec. 15, at 1:30 p.m. ET.
  • To participate, just call **877-256-8277**. No meeting ID or passcode is required.

• An Update for Managing Personnel in the Time of COVID-19
  • Thursday, Dec. 17, at 8 p.m. ET
  • Registration: https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4743468396106057744

• Missed a COVID-19 related webinar?
  • https://ncpa.org/coronavirus-information#webinars
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