

Frequently Asked Questions: Billing for COVID-19 Vaccine Administration

Q1: What is the reimbursement rate for the administration of the COVID vaccine?

The payment varies depending on the client's insurance plan. CMS has indicated that reimbursement fees are \$40.00 and may be higher for home bound clients (Effective June 8, 2021, Medicare will pay an additional amount of \$35 per dose for administering COVID-19 vaccine in the home for Medicare patients that have difficulties leaving their homes or are hard-to-reach).

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/covid-19/medicare-billing-covid-19-vaccine-shot-administration>

Private insurance and Medicaid programs (Medi-Cal) may have different reimbursement rates and will need to be contacted individually

For client's with Blue Shield insurance, Blue Shield of California has offered specific guidance:

https://www.blueshieldca.com/bsca/bsc/public/common/PortalComponents/provider/StreamDocumentServlet?fileName=PRV_T11597_Vaccine_and_monoclonal_antibody_treatment.pdf

For individuals without health insurance, see Q5

Q2: Can I bill for the vaccine?

No. The vaccine is provided free of charge to providers, thus the vaccine itself cannot be billed.

Q3: What diagnosis code should I use?

Z23 Encounter for immunization

Q4: What billing codes should I use?

- a. Pfizer (ages 12+) -- Vaccine code: 91300; 1st dose: 0001A, 2nd dose: 0002A, third dose (for immunocompromised): 0003A; Booster dose: 0004A
- b. Pfizer pediatric (ages 5-11) -- Vaccine code: 91307; 1st dose: 0071A; 2nd dose: 0072A
- c. Moderna – Vaccine code: 91301, first dose: 0011A, second dose: 0012A, third dose: 00013A; Booster dose: 0064A
- d. Janssen – Vaccine code: 91303, single dose: 0031A
- e. AstraZeneca – Vaccine code: 91302, first dose: 0021A, second dose: 0022A (not yet US-authorized)
- f. The Level II code for the additional payment rate for administering the COVID-19 vaccine in the home is M0201

Q5: What if a patient is uninsured? How can I get paid for administering the COVID-19 Vaccine?

Payment for administration can be requested to Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). HRSA COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund (CAF) will cover the costs of administering COVID-19 vaccines to patients whose health insurance does not cover vaccine administration fees or does but typically has patient cost-sharing. HRSA Support Line at **(833) 967-0770**.

<https://coviduninsuredclaim.linkhealth.com/>

Q6: I filed a claim to a client's insurance and the claim was rejected. What do I do now?

The California Medical Association (CMA) offers assistance to non-paying and paying members in LA county. Please call the CMA at: **(888) 401-5911** or email them at: EconomicServices@cmadocs.org (Center for Economic Services).