

To help physicians better understand the guidance on COVID-19 vaccine administration reimbursement, CMA has compiled the following information.

### CPT Guidance

The new vaccine administration CPT codes are specific to the manufacturer and the first vs. second dose.

| Manufacturer                | National Drug Code | Vaccine Serum CPT | 1 <sup>st</sup> Admin CPT | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Admin CPT |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Pfizer                      | 59267-1000-1       | 91300             | 0001A                     | 0002A                     |
| Moderna                     | 80777-273-10       | 91301             | 0011A                     | 0012A                     |
| Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) | 59676-0580-05      | 91303             | 0031A                     | N/A                       |

*\*Additional codes will be added as they become available.*

### Reimbursement and Billing Information

**PATIENT COST SHARING** – Since the federal government is supplying the vaccine itself at no cost, vaccination providers are only able to be reimbursed for administering the vaccine. There should be **no patient cost sharing for all payor types** for vaccine administration regardless of whether the service is provided by an in-network or out-of-network provider.

#### Medicare Fee-For Service and Medicare Advantage

For 2020 and 2021, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is carving out the COVID-19 vaccine administration benefit from the Medicare Advantage plans and will reimburse under the Medicare fee-for-service system. To avoid delays or denials in payment, **physicians will need to ensure claims for Medicare Advantage enrollees are submitted directly to Noridian, the Medicare Administrative Contractor.** Claims must be submitted under the patient's Medicare Beneficiary Identification number indicated on their original Medicare ID card.

**CLAIM SUBMISSION** – Claims should be submitted to Noridian with the patient's original Medicare ID number, rather than the Medicare Advantage ID number.

**BILLING** – Claims should include the vaccine administration CPT codes only.

#### REIMBURSEMENT RATES –

Dates of service through March 14, 2021

- + Single dose vaccines: \$28.39
- + Vaccines requiring 2 or more doses:
  - Initial dose: \$16.94
  - Second dose: \$28.39

Dates of service on or after March 15, 2021

- + \$40 for each dose required

For more information, visit the [CMS COVID-19 Insurers Toolkit](#).

#### Medi-Cal Fee-For-Service and Medi-Cal Managed Care

Consistent with the approach taken by Medicare for Medicare Advantage plans, The Department of Health Care Services is also carving out the COVID-19 vaccine administration reimbursement from the Medi-Cal managed care system and will reimburse under the fee-for-service (FFS) delivery system. To avoid delays and denials in payment, physicians will need to ensure claims for COVID-19 vaccine administration **are submitted to Medi-Cal FFS** rather than the Medi-Cal managed care plans. Physicians should follow the Provider Manual for Medi-Cal FFS billing and submit claims with the patient's Medi-Cal Benefit Identification Card (BIC) number rather than the Medi-Cal managed care ID number.

**CLAIM SUBMISSION** - Medi-Cal FFS and Medi-Cal managed care claims should be submitted directly to Medi-Cal FFS with the patient's Medi-Cal FFS BIC ID number, rather than the Medi-Cal managed care plan ID number.

**BILLING** – Claims should include the vaccine administration CPT codes only.

#### **REIMBURSEMENT RATES –**

Dates of service through March 14, 2021

- + Single dose vaccines: \$28.39
- + Vaccines requiring 2 or more doses:
  - Initial dose: \$16.94
  - Second dose: \$28.39

Dates of service on or after March 15, 2021

- + \$40 for each dose required

## **Commercial Plans Regulated by the Department of Managed Health Care**

**CLAIM SUBMISSION** – Bill plan/delegated group as you normally would, unless notified otherwise by plan/delegated group.

**BILLING** – Claims should include the vaccine administration CPT codes only.

**REIMBURSEMENT RATES** – In-network physicians will be reimbursed at their contracted rate. Per DMHC, out-of-network providers must be reimbursed at a “reasonable rate,” which CMS guidance suggests is the Medicare rate for COVID-19 vaccine administration. (See DMHC [APL 20-039](#).) Physicians seeking specific billing or reimbursement guidance should visit the plans websites:

- + [Aetna](#)
- + [Anthem Blue Cross](#)
- + [Blue Shield of California](#) – Rather than billing the delegated group, Blue Shield announced it is assuming financial responsibility for COVID-19 vaccine administration costs. Effective for dates of service on and after December 11, 2020, practices should bill Blue Shield directly.
- + [Cigna](#)
- + [Health Net](#)
- + [UnitedHealthcare](#)

## **Insurers Regulated by the California Department of Insurance**

**CLAIM SUBMISSION** – Bill insurer as you normally would.

**BILLING** – Claims should include the vaccine administration CPT codes only.

**REIMBURSEMENT RATES** – In-network physicians will be reimbursed at their contracted rate. Per CDI, out-of-network providers must be reimbursed at a “reasonable rate,” which CMS guidance suggests is the Medicare reimbursement rate for COVID-19 vaccine administration. Providers seeking specific billing or reimbursement guidance from private payors should visit their websites for more information:

- + [Aetna](#)
- + [Cigna](#)
- + [UnitedHealthcare](#)

## **ERISA plans**

The CARES Act requires self-funded plans to cover the administration of COVID-19 vaccines with no cost share (copayment, coinsurance or deductible) for in- or out-of-network providers during the national public health emergency.

## **Uninsured Patients**

For individuals who are uninsured, providers will be able to be reimbursed for administering the COVID-19 vaccine through the Provider Relief Fund, administered by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration.

For more information on COVID-19 vaccine administration claim submission for uninsured individuals, [HRSA website](#).

**If you have questions regarding COVID-19 vaccine billing or reimbursement, please contact CMA at [memberservice@cmadocs.org](mailto:memberservice@cmadocs.org) or at (888) 401-5911.**