

PROVIDER BULLETIN

No. 15-49

Date: October 19, 2015

TO: Physicians, Hospitals, Home Health Agencies, and Pharmacies.

FROM: Calder Lynch, Director 
Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care

BY: Leah Spencer, Program Specialist, RN
Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care

RE: Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Update

Please share this information with administrative clinical, and billing staff.

This provider bulletin replaces previous bulletins regarding seasonal influenza vaccine updates. The purpose of the provider bulletin is to clarify the coverage of influenza vaccine for Medicaid fee-for-service eligible clients. Seasonal influenza vaccine is covered for all Nebraska Medicaid clients following the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations for children and adults.

Coverage Criteria:

- For clients who are 18 years old and younger, the vaccine is available through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program. Providers must be VFC enrolled to obtain the vaccine.
- Nebraska Medicaid only reimburses for administration of vaccines that are available through the VFC program.
- Medicaid is unable to reimburse providers for private stock vaccine for children to age 18. Providers may bill private stock vaccine for children enrolled in the Separate Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) until December 31, 2015, when SCHIP will end. The SCHIP program provides health coverage to uninsured children under 19 years of age whose families earn too much to qualify for Medicaid, but too little to afford private coverage.
- In the physician office, providers will bill the vaccine CPT code with an SL modifier which indicates a state supplied vaccine. Claims billed for VFC eligible children without the SL modifier will be denied.
- VFC vaccine is not available at retail pharmacies at this time. Children will need to receive VFC vaccine from a VFC enrolled provider.

- Pharmacies can bill the point of sale vendor for eligible clients 19 and older who are not Medicare eligible and may be administered to adult clients at pharmacies by an authorized Licensed Pharmacist.
- Influenza vaccine may be administered to homebound clients by home health care providers during a home visit.

If you have questions regarding this bulletin, you may call Leah Spencer at 402-471-9368, or via email at: DHHS.MLTCPhysicalHealth@nebraska.gov.