

To: All Providers Participating in Nebraska Medicaid Program  
From: Kevin Bagley, Director  
Date: January 7, 2021  
Re: COVID-19 Vaccine

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This provider bulletin is being issued to inform providers about the COVID-19 vaccines, which providers will be allowed to administer these vaccines, and how to bill Nebraska Medicaid for the administration of these vaccines.

**INFORMATION FOR PROVIDERS ABOUT DHHS STATE-WIDE COVID-19 VACCINATION PLAN**

We encourage providers to read through Nebraska’s COVID-19 Vaccination Plan. It is available at: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Documents/COVID-19-Vaccination-Plan.pdf>.

The Nebraska DHHS Division of Public Health is now offering a COVID-19 Vaccine provider program. In order to participate in this program, you must enroll with the Division of Public Health. For more information, please visit: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/COVID-19-Vaccine-Information-For-Health-Care-Providers.aspx>.

For general COVID-19 vaccine program questions please contact DHHS Division of Public Health at: [dhhs.immunization@nebraska.gov](mailto:dhhs.immunization@nebraska.gov).

**INFORMATION FOR MEDICAID PROVIDERS**

Effective December 1, 2020, Medicaid-enrolled providers who administer a COVID-19 vaccine to Medicaid eligible patients according to the federal Food and Drug Administration’s prescribing indications will be reimbursed for the administration of the vaccine. Participating providers have two options for billing Medicaid for this vaccination: (1) file a medical claim or (2) bill at the point of sale in a pharmacy. Medicaid is the payer of last resort, so Medicare and primary insurance must be billed first for the administration, if applicable.

The COVID-19 vaccine is not supplied by the Vaccines for Children’s (VFC) Program; therefore, the vaccine administration may be billed without the CPT code and SL modifier and may be reimbursed in the retail pharmacy. There is no co-payment or deductible for members.

**HOW TO BILL NEBRASKA MEDICAID: Medical Claim Billing Option**

The following administration billing codes are covered:

| HCPCS | Description   | Reimbursement Rate |
|-------|---|--------------------|
| 0001A | Pfizer-Biotech COVID – 19 Vaccine administration 1 <sup>st</sup> dose | \$16.94            |
| 0002A | Pfizer-Biotech COVID – 19 Vaccine administration 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose | \$28.39            |

|       |  |         |
|-------|--|---------|
| 0011A | Moderna COVID – 19 Vaccine administration 1 <sup>st</sup> dose | \$16.94 |
| 0012A | Moderna COVID – 19 Vaccine administration 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose | \$28.39 |

Single-dose vaccine administration will be reimbursed at \$28.39, when those vaccines are available.

Important points to know:

- (1) Administration of a COVID-19 vaccine is a carve-out service for long-term care facilities and providers who are reimbursed through the EAPG payment system and the administration can be billed in addition to the daily per diem; and
- (2) Rural health care clinics, Indian Health Services, and federally qualified health centers will be reimbursed the encounter payment for COVID-19 administration.

### **HOW TO BILL NEBRASKA MEDICAID: Pharmacy Point of Sale Billing Option**

The federal Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act) authorizes a state-licensed pharmacist to order and administer certain COVID-19 vaccines, as long as the pharmacist has met the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) training requirements and state regulations for training for vaccine administration.

- An administration fee will be reimbursed, at the fees listed above, using NCPDP billing; and
- No dispensing fee will be reimbursed, only an administration fee.
  - For more information on the PREP Act, please visit: <https://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/legal/prepact/Pages/default.aspx>; and

The ordering provider may be the ordering pharmacist or collaborating practitioner. The billing provider will be the pharmacy.

For pharmacy system billing of a COVID-19 vaccine, the administration must be billed using the following NCPDP logic:

- Enter the vaccinating pharmacist or the collaborating practitioner as the prescriber and include their NPI number as the Prescriber ID;
- Enter Prescription Origin Code “5” (Pharmacy);
- Enter Product/Service ID as the vaccine NDC number;
- The Ingredient Cost Submitted should have a value of \$0 or \$0.01;
- A basis of Cost Determination value of “15” (free product or no associated cost);
- Enter the Professional Service Code of MA (Medication Administered); and,
- For two-dose COVID vaccines:
  - Initial dose – use Submission Clarification Code “2” (Other Override); and
  - Final dose – use Submission Clarification Code “6” (Starter Dose).

A pharmacist trained to order a COVID-19 vaccine must enroll as a group member of a Medicaid-enrolled pharmacy to be listed as the ordering provider on the NCPDP claim. Maximus is the provider screening and enrollment contractor for Nebraska Medicaid.

In a pharmacy, COVID-19 vaccine administration may alternatively be billed using the CMS-1500 or 837: Professional claim using the medical billing instructions as above.

To enroll as a pharmacy group member, please contact Maximus at 1-844-374-5022 or at [www.nebraskamedicaidproviderenrollment.com](http://www.nebraskamedicaidproviderenrollment.com).

For instructions on how to enroll as a pharmacy group member please go to: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Documents/Pharmacist%20Enrolling%20for%20Covid%20Vaccine%20Group%20Member.pdf>

Information regarding the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act) may be found at: <https://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/legal/prepact/Pages/default.aspx>

If you have general questions regarding this bulletin, please e-mail inquiries to: [DHHS.MedicaidPharmacyUnit@nebraska.gov](mailto:DHHS.MedicaidPharmacyUnit@nebraska.gov)

For further information or questions, please contact the patient's healthcare plan:  
Nebraska Total Care  
(844) 385-2192, or  
[www.covermy meds.com/epa/envolverx/](http://www.covermy meds.com/epa/envolverx/)

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Nebraska  
(866) 331-2243, or  
<https://www.uhcprovider.com/en/health-plans-by-state/nebraska-health-plans/ne-comm-plan-home/ne-cp-pharmacy.html>

HEALTHY BLUE Nebraska Provider Services  
(833) 388-1406, or  
<https://provider.healthybluene.com/nebraska-provider/home>

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