

# COVID-19 Vaccine Cost, Billing and Reimbursement

## January 12, 2020

### Updated - April 2, 2021

The following list of resources includes information on COVID-19 vaccine cost, billing and reimbursement. Health care providers will play an important role in the acceptance of COVID-19 vaccine(s). Vaccine doses purchased with U.S. taxpayer dollars will be given to the American people at no cost. Providers participating in the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program contractually agree to administer a COVID-19 vaccine regardless of an individual's ability to pay, regardless of their coverage status, and also may not seek any reimbursement, including through balance billing, from a vaccine recipient.

**Providers who have questions about billing or reimbursement of vaccine administration for patients covered by private insurance should contact the respective health plan.** People without health insurance or whose insurance does not provide coverage of the vaccine may also receive COVID-19 vaccine at no cost. Providers administering vaccine to people without health insurance or whose insurance does not provide coverage of the vaccine may request reimbursement for the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine through the [Provider Relief Fund](#). Vaccine recipients cannot be charged for the cost of the vaccine, vaccine administration and shall not have any out-of-pocket costs.

### **Insured Individuals**

Providers can bill the insurance for an office visit when administering COVID-19 vaccine if the visit meets the criteria for office visit coding under a recipient's plan. Vaccine providers will be able to charge an administration fee to the insurance. However, participating vaccine providers must administer COVID-19 vaccine regardless of the vaccine recipient's ability to pay COVID-19 vaccine administration fees or coverage status, as stated in the CDC Provider Agreement.

### **Under-Insured Individuals**

Participating vaccine providers must administer COVID-19 vaccine regardless of the vaccine recipient's ability to pay COVID-19 vaccine administration fees or coverage status, as stated in the CDC Provider Agreement. For uninsured patients, the vaccine provider can seek reimbursement for an administration fee from the HRSA Provider Relief Fund. Vaccine recipients cannot be charged for the cost of the vaccine, vaccine administration and shall not have any out-of-pocket costs

## Medicaid

Iowa Medicaid will reimburse vaccine administration at a fee per dose administered. The final fee and mechanism for reimbursement of COVID-19 vaccine and Monoclonal Antibodies can be found at the following link:

<https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/IMPA/Information/ViewDocument.aspx?viewdocument=e7b88bd0-dc41-4514-9020-52ec0bbd0363>

The Medicaid Informational Letter (IL) updating the vaccine administration rate and expanded eligibility groups has been posted at the following link and effective April 1, 2021:

<https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/IMPA/Information/ViewDocument.aspx?viewdocument=e8557875-3038-4a8f-9d79-6574a3e0ebb9>

## Medicare

CMS released a [set of toolkits](#) for providers, states and insurers to help the health care system prepare to swiftly administer the vaccine once it is available. These resources are designed to increase the number of providers that can administer the vaccine and ensure adequate reimbursement for administering the vaccine in Medicare, while making it clear to private insurers and Medicaid programs their responsibility to cover the vaccine at no charge to beneficiaries.

On March 15, 2021, CMS is updating the Medicare payment rates for COVID-19 vaccine administration. Effective for services furnished on or after March 15, 2021, the new Medicare payment rate for administering a COVID-19 vaccine will be approximately \$40 to administer each dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. This means that starting on March 15, 2021, for single dose COVID-19 vaccines, Medicare will pay approximately \$40 for its administration. Starting on March 15, 2021, for COVID-19 vaccines requiring multiple doses, Medicare will pay approximately \$40 for each dose in the series. This rate reflects updated information about the costs involved in administering the COVID-19 vaccine for different types of providers and suppliers, and the additional resources necessary to ensure the vaccine is administered safely and appropriately. The rate will be geographically adjusted based on where the service is furnished.

For COVID-19 vaccine administration services furnished before March 15, 2021, the Medicare payment rate for a single-dose vaccine or for the final dose in a series is \$28.39. For a COVID-19 vaccine requiring a series of two or more doses, the payment rate is \$16.94 for the initial dose(s) in the series and \$28.39 for the final dose in the series.

CPT Code	CPT Short Descriptor	Labeler Name	Vaccine/ Procedure Name	National Payment Allowance Effective for Claims with DOS on or after 03/15/21	National Payment Allowance Effective for Claims with DOS through 03/14/21	Effective Dates
9130	SARSCOV2 VAC 30MCG/0.3ML IM	Pfizer	Pfizer-Biontech Covid-19 Vaccine	\$0.010*	\$0.010*	12/11/20 – TBD

0001A	ADM SARSCOV2 30MCG/0.3ML 1ST	Pfizer	Pfizer-Biontech Covid-19 Vaccine Administration – First Dose	\$40.000**	\$16.940**	12/11/20 – TBD
0002A	ADM SARSCOV2 30MCG/0.3ML 2ND	Pfizer	Pfizer-Biontech Covid-19 Vaccine Administration – Second Dose	\$40.000**	\$28.390**	12/11/20 – TBD
91301	SARSCOV2 VAC 100MCG/0.5ML IM	Moderna	Moderna Covid-19 Vaccine	\$0.010*	\$0.010*	12/18/20 – TBD
0011A	ADM SARSCOV2 100MCG/0.5ML1ST	Moderna	Moderna Covid-19 Vaccine Administration – First Dose	\$40.000**	\$16.940**	12/18/20 – TBD
0012A	ADM SARSCOV2 100MCG/0.5ML2N D	Moderna	Moderna Covid-19 Vaccine Administration – Second Dose	\$40.000**	\$28.390**	12/18/20 – TBD
91303	SARSCOV2 VAC AD26 .5ML IM	Janssen	Janssen Covid-19 Vaccine***	\$0.010*	\$0.010*	02/27/21 – TBD
0031A	ADM SARSCOV2 VAC AD26 .5ML	Janssen	Janssen Covid-19 Vaccine Administration***	\$40.000**	\$28.390**	02/27/21 – TBD

\* Since we anticipate that providers, initially, will not incur a cost for the product, CMS will update the payment allowance at a later date. Providers should not bill for the product if they received it for free.

\*\* These rates will also be geographically adjusted for many providers. For providers and suppliers with payments that are geographically adjusted by the methodology used by the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS), files with the geographically adjusted payment rates for COVID-19 vaccine administration are included in the “Additional Resources” section below. Certain settings utilize other payment methodologies, such as payment based on reasonable costs.

\*\*\* Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 Vaccine