

## Medicare Part B Immunization Billing

Provider Outreach and Education

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**WPS** | GOVERNMENT  
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**Learning Center**



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## Agenda

- Part B Coverage of Seasonal Influenza Virus and Pneumococcal Vaccines
- Part B Coverage of Hepatitis B Vaccine
- Part D Coverage of Zoster (Shingles) Vaccine
- References
- Questions



Medicare Part B

## ***Coverage of Seasonal Influenza Virus and Pneumococcal Vaccines***

## **WPS GHA Medicare Part B**

- CMS has chosen WPS GHA as the Medicare Administrative Contractor for Jurisdiction 5 and Jurisdiction 8
- Today's webinar focuses on Part B claims for immunizations

## Advisory Committee of Immunization Practices (ACIP)

- Advisory Committee to the federal government
  - Makes written recommendation for routine administration vaccines to pediatric and adult populations
  - CMS issues coverage requirements that align with ACIP recommendations

## To Vaccinate or Not to Vaccinate

- ACIP recommendations include who should be vaccinated and who should not be vaccinated
- Vaccine-specific recommendations of the ACIP are available on the Center for Disease Control's website
  - <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html>

## Influenza Virus Vaccine

- Generally, one is medically necessary per influenza season
  - Additional vaccine may be covered if medically necessary
- No physician order or supervision required
  - State laws may apply

## Pneumococcal Vaccine (PPV)

- Part B will cover
  - An initial pneumococcal vaccine to all Medicare beneficiaries who have never received the vaccine; and
  - A different, second pneumococcal vaccine one year after the first vaccine was administered (that is, 11 full months have passed following the month in which the last pneumococcal vaccine was administered)

## Vaccination History in Past Five Years

- If patient is uncertain about vaccination history, the vaccine should be given
- If patient is certain s/he was vaccinated in the last five years, do not give vaccine
- If patient is certain vaccine was given and >5 years has passed since previous dose, revaccination is not appropriate unless the patient is at highest risk

## Revaccination - Patient Not at Higher Risk

- If an individual, not at higher risk, is revaccinated because of uncertainty about vaccination status, Medicare will cover the revaccination

## When In Doubt - Revaccinate?

- For persons  $\geq 65$  years
  - Administer a second dose if they received the vaccine  $>5$  years previously and were  $<65$  years at the time of the primary vaccination
- For aged 65 years or older with unknown vaccination status
  - Administer one dose of vaccine

## Not Sure/ Prior Pneumococcal Vaccination Status Not Documented

- Do not require the patient to present an immunization record
- Do not feel compelled to review the patient's complete medical record if it is not available
- Rely on patient's verbal history to determine prior vaccination status

## Frequency Question #1

- If a beneficiary receives an influenza virus vaccination more than once in a 12-month period, will Medicare still pay for it?
  - Yes, generally Medicare pays for one influenza virus vaccination per influenza season

## Frequency Question #2

- What if a beneficiary needs more than one influenza virus vaccine in an influenza season?
  - Medicare will pay for more than one influenza virus vaccination per influenza season if a physician determines and documents that the vaccination is reasonable and medically necessary
  - The administering provider should maintain documentation



## Frequency Question #3

- Will Medicare cover more than one pneumococcal vaccine in a patient's lifetime?
  - Yes
    - In accordance with ACIP all persons should receive a dose of pneumococcal vaccine when or after they reach age 65
    - Persons who receive a dose before age 65 are recommended to receive another dose after they turn age 65, once 5 years have elapsed since their prior dose
    - This vaccine is generally a once-in-a-lifetime after age 65 vaccination that can be given at any time during the year
    - All persons who have unknown vaccination status should receive one dose of vaccine

## Eligibility - Influenza Virus and Pneumococcal Vaccines

- Only persons with Part B coverage can have these vaccines covered under Part B
- For Part B covered beneficiaries, Medicare is considered the primary payer for these vaccinations
  - Services paid at 100%
  - No coinsurance and/or deductible

## Physician Presence/Order - Influenza Virus/Pneumococcal Vaccine

- No Medicare requirement for physician to be present
  - Laws in individual states may require this
- When allowable under state law, Medicare requires no physician order, or any other type of physician involvement

## Can the influenza virus vaccine and the pneumococcal vaccine be administered at the same time?

- Yes
  - By separate injection in the opposite arm

## Billing Part B

- Claim must be assigned
- Eligible providers must be enrolled with Medicare in order to bill
- Certain types of providers/suppliers are locations where a mass immunization provider may provide vaccination services
  - Senior centers, shopping malls, non-certified Home Health Agencies, etc.

## Assignment Considerations

- Part B payment for vaccine is made only on an assignment-related basis
- Non-participating physicians and suppliers not required to accept assignment for vaccine administration
  - Can charge the beneficiary for this
  - Limiting charge applies
  - Patient responsible to pay difference between the amount billed and the amount Medicare allows for administration

## Payment Policy - Vaccine

- Total payment based on cost of vaccine reimbursement + compensation for vaccine administration
- Part B Medicare's payment allowances are established nationally at 95% of the average wholesale price
  - Payment allowances appear in published drug pricing compendia
  - Except when furnished in a hospital outpatient department, Rural Health Clinic or Federally Qualified Health Center

## Payment Policy - Administration

- Administration fee is the lesser of the actual charge or the fee schedule amount for a comparable injection
  - Fee schedule determined each year with an effective date of January
- To search for the administration fee, providers can use the physician fee schedule search on the CMS website
  - <https://www.cms.gov/apps/physician-fee-schedule/overview.aspx>

## CMS Payment Allowances for Influenza Vaccine

- Published on the CMS influenza vaccine pricing web page
  - <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Part-B-Drugs/McrPartBDrugAvgSalesPrice/VaccinesPricing.html>

## Billing for Immunizations

- All data fields required for any Part B claim are required for vaccines and their administration
  - In accordance with CMS Internet-Only Manual instructions
    - Available on CMS website, Publication 100-04, Chapter 26
    - Coding specific to these benefits is required

## Health Insurance Claim Number (HICN)

- Providers/suppliers responsible for providing required items on claim
  - Enter valid HICN on claim
- MAC will not contact provider/supplier to resolve incorrect HICNs

## Other Billing Tips

- When Medicare is known to be the secondary payer, for all influenza vaccination claims, enter NONE in item 11 of the CMS-1500 claim form
- When beneficiary receives both an influenza virus vaccine and pneumococcal vaccine on the same day, providers not roster billing may put both vaccines and their administration on the same claim

## Mass Immunizers

- Entities/individuals that provide mass immunization services, but may not otherwise be able to qualify as a Medicare Mass Immunizer provider
- Must meet certain criteria in order to bill
  - Must be eligible to enroll with Medicare
  - Must use Roster billing and accept assignment
  - May not submit claims for any services or items other than for influenza and PPV vaccines and their administration

## Roster Billing

- Developed to provide Medicare beneficiaries greater access to the pneumococcal (PPV) and influenza virus vaccines
- Special billing procedures are applicable

## Roster Billing by Mass Immunizer

- Article, including special billing procedures and claim form instructions, is available on WPS GHA website
  - [http://www.wpsmedicare.com/j5macpartb/resources/provider\\_types/rosterbilling.shtml](http://www.wpsmedicare.com/j5macpartb/resources/provider_types/rosterbilling.shtml)

## Centralized Billing

- Allows mass immunizers to send all influenza virus and/or pneumococcal vaccination claims to one Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) regardless of where the vaccination was administered
  - To qualify, the provider must operate in at least three payment localities where 3 different MACs process claims



## Resource for Mass Immunizers/Roster Billing

- CMS Publication - *Mass Immunizers and Roster Billing: Simplified Billing for Influenza Virus and Pneumococcal Vaccinations* – ICN 907275 March 2015
  - [https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/Mass Immunize Roster Bill factsheet ICN907275.pdf](https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/Mass_Immunize_Roster_Bill_factsheet_ICN907275.pdf)

Medicare Part B

## Coverage of Hepatitis B Vaccination

## Hepatitis B Vaccine

- Covered for beneficiaries at intermediate to high risk for the hepatitis B virus (HBV)
  - Health care professionals who have frequent contact with blood or blood-derived body fluids during routine work
  - Those with End-Stage-Renal Disease (ESRD)
  - Persons who live in the same household as an HBV carrier
  - Persons diagnosed with diabetes mellitus
  - Other situations could qualify

## Frequency

- Scheduled doses required

## No Roster Billing For HBV Vaccine

- Roster billing for HBV vaccine is not allowed

Medicare Part C/D

## *Coverage of Zoster (Shingles) Vaccine*

## Shingles (Herpes Zoster) Vaccine

- Vaccine not covered by Part B, nor is the administration
- May be covered for beneficiaries in a stand-alone Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (PDP or Part D) or for beneficiaries enrolled in a Part C Medicare Advantage plan that includes prescription drug coverage
  - Also known as Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug plan
- Contact plan with any questions

Where You Can Find Information

## *References*

## CMS Education

- Immunizations web page
  - <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Prevention/Immunizations/index.html?redirect=/immunizations/>

## CMS Preventive Services Interactive Educational Tool

- CMS Preventive Services interactive educational tool
  - Includes HCPCS/CPT Codes, ICD-10 Codes, Who is Covered, Frequency, Beneficiary Pays, and link for more information
  - [https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Prevention/PrevntionGenInfo/Downloads/MPS\\_QuickReferenceChart\\_1.pdf](https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Prevention/PrevntionGenInfo/Downloads/MPS_QuickReferenceChart_1.pdf)

## Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- CDC vaccines web page includes immunizations schedules, ACIP recommendations, education & training, and more
  - <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/>

## *Questions*

*Thank you!*