

Provider communication

Title: **COVID-19 Vaccine Pharmacy Billing and Reimbursement - update**

Posting date: **September 2, 2021**

Summary: Blue Cross Complete is in the process of completing additional coding for COVID-19 vaccine coverage. We're also providing an additional reminder regarding our administration fee incentive, which is available to pharmacies through September 30, 2021.

An additional communication will be sent once coding is completed. Until that time, the PerformRx Pharmacy Help Desk (1-888-989-0057) can assist with overrides for denied COVID-19 vaccine claims.

Billing for an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccines:

Effective August 12, 2021, Blue Cross Complete is covering additional doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech and the Moderna COVID-19 vaccines in alignment with The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommendations. Administration of additional doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech and the Moderna COVID-19 vaccines will be reimbursed at \$37.85.

Blue Cross Complete members receiving the vaccine will have a \$0 copay.

To receive reimbursement for the administration fee (incentive), pharmacies must submit claims in accordance with National Council for Prescription Drug Programs guidance as outlined below:

- Professional service code (NCPDP field 440-E5) = "MA" (Medication Administered)
- Incentive amount submitted (NCPDP field 438-E3)
- Submission clarification codes:
 - SCC = 2 indicates a first dose
 - SCC = 6 indicates a final dose
 - SCC = 7 indicates an additional dose
- Under all SCCs, Blue Cross Complete will reimburse a \$37.85 incentive fee.
- To override prescriber edits when the pharmacist is applying prescriptive authority, pharmacies must submit:
 - A prescription origin code '5' (NCPDP field 419-DJ)
 - An additional SCC value of 42
- Basis of cost determination '15' (free product or no associated cost – NCPDP field 423-DN)

For more information on billing for COVID-19 vaccine administration, please review *NCPCP Emergency Preparedness Guidance – Version 1.10* at [ncdp.org](https://www.ncdp.org)* under *Guides and Templates*.



Increasing COVID-19 vaccination rates – temporary administration fee enhancement

As a reminder, Blue Cross Complete is currently paying an additional administration fee of \$10 during August and September of 2021. A total of \$47.85 per COVID-19 vaccine dose administered will be reimbursed to the pharmacy for previously unvaccinated members. The enhanced administration fee is to provide additional reimbursement as pharmacies continue to work to increase COVID-19 vaccination rates throughout the state of Michigan.

The relationships you establish with your patients, along with additional education you provide to promote safe and effective vaccination, is essential to increasing vaccination rates. Your attention to this effort is appreciated.

Home administration of COVID-19 vaccines

COVID-19 vaccine administration is covered for Medicaid recipients in their place of residence. Pharmacies may bill and will be reimbursed for the COVID-19 vaccine administration in accordance with existing policies and reimbursement rates that align with the practitioner fees. The current reimbursement rate is \$33.24 in addition to the standard \$37.85 administration fee.

- Medical claims reimbursement for home administration of COVID-19 vaccines should be submitted with HCPCS code M0201 (COVID-19 vaccine home administration).
- Pharmacy claims reimbursement for home administration of COVID-19 vaccines requires submission of Place of Service = 12 in NCPDP field 307-C7. According to the CMS Place of Service Code Set, 12 is defined as “location, other than a hospital or other facility, where the patient receives care in a private residence.”

Contact PerformRx for claims assistance

- Pharmacies experiencing any difficulties in processing prescription claims should call the **PerformRx Pharmacy Help Desk** for assistance at **1-888-989-0057**.
 - Error messaging is provided for all denied claims.
 - Supplemental messaging is provided when possible.
 - Additional formulary information can be found at the following websites:
 - Preferred drug list: mibluccrosscomplete.com/pharmacy
 - michigan.gov/mcopharmacy*
 - michigan.magellanrx.com/provider*
- Members can call Pharmacy Customer Service at **1-888-288-3231** with any questions related to their pharmacy benefit.

*Our website is mibluccrosscomplete.com. While website addresses for other organizations are provided for reference, Blue Cross Complete does not control these sites and is not responsible for their content.