

COVID-19 Vaccination Coding and Billing Resources

November 22, 2021

Cost

How much do the vaccines cost? The COVID-19 vaccine must be provided at no cost to recipient. The vaccine, along with the ancillary supplies, is provided by the federal government at no cost to enrolled COVID-19 vaccine providers. Vaccine providers should bill third party payers whenever possible, including commercial insurance, Medicare or Medicaid, for the administration fee as appropriate. As noted in the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Agreement signed by your organization's leadership, providers may not seek any additional reimbursement, including through balance billing, sliding fee scales or co-pays from the vaccine recipient.

Source: [CDC - Key Things to Know About COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

Coding

"The American Medical Association (AMA) published an update to the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) code set that includes new vaccine-specific codes to report immunizations for the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2, COVID-19).

This level of specificity offers the ability to track each vaccine dose, even when the vaccine product is not reported (e.g., when the vaccine may be given to the patient for free). These CPT codes report the actual work of administering the vaccine, in addition to all necessary counseling provided to patients or caregivers and updating the electronic record."

Pfizer-BioNTech Vaccine

91300: SARSCOV2 VAC 30MCG/0.3ML IM
0001A: ADM SARSCOV2 30MCG/0.3ML 1ST
0002A: ADM SARSCOV2 30MCG/0.3ML 2ND
0003A: ADM SARSCOV2 30MCG/0.3ML 3RD
0004A: ADM SARSCOV2 30MCG/0.3ML Booster

Pfizer-BioNTech Vaccine Ready to Use

91305: SARSCOV2 VAC 30MCG/0.3ml IM
0051A: ADM Pfizer COVID-19 Ready to Use, 1ST
0052A: ADM Pfizer COVID-19 Ready to Use, 2ND
0053A: ADM Pfizer COVID-19 Ready to Use, 3RD
0054A: ADM Pfizer COVID-19 Ready to Use, Booster

Pfizer-BioNTech Vaccine, Pediatric (ages 5-11)

91307: SARSCOV2 VAC 10MCG/0.2ML IM
0071A: ADM SARSCOV2 10MCG/0.2ML 1ST
0072A: ADM SARSCOV2 10MCG/0.2ML 2ND

Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine

91301: SARSCOV2 VAC 100MCG/0.5ML IM
0011A: ADM SARSCOV2 100MCG/0.5ML 1ST
0012A: ADM SARSCOV2 100MCG/0.5ML 2ND
0013A: ADM SARSCOV2 100MCG/0.5ML 3RD

Moderna COVID-19 Booster

91306: SARSCOV2 VAC 50MCG/0.25ML IM
0014A: ADM SARSCOV2 50MCG/0.25ML Booster

Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine

91303: SARSCOV2 VAC AD26 .5ML IM
0031A: ADM SARSCOV2 VAC AD26 .5ML

Janssen COVID-19 Booster

91303: SARSCOV2 VAC AD26 .5ML IM
0034A: ADM SARSCOV2 VAC AD26 .5ML

Source: American Medical Association www.ama-assn.org/system/files/2021-01/coronavirus-short-descriptors.pdf • www.ama-assn.org/system/files/2020-11/covid-19-immunizations-appendix-q-table.pdf • www.ama-assn.org/press-center/press-releases/ama-announces-vaccine-specific-cpt-codes-coronavirus-immunizations • www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/cpt/covid-19-cpt-coding-and-guidance

Billing

“Vaccine doses purchased with U.S. taxpayer dollars will be given to the American people at no cost. However, vaccination providers may be able to charge administration fees for giving the shot. Vaccination providers can get this fee reimbursed by the patient’s public or private insurance company or, for uninsured patients, by the Health Resources and Services Administration’s Provider Relief Fund (HRSA).”

Source: [CDC - Key Things to Know About COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

Make sure you enter the CPT Codes for the vaccine and the administration fee into your billing system.

Vaccine CPT Code	ICD-10 Code	Vaccine Admin Code(s)	Vaccine Name	Unit of Coverage	NDC 11 Digit Product ID
91300	Z23	0001A (1 st dose) 0002A (2 nd dose) 0003A (3 rd dose) 0004A (booster)	Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine	0.3mL	59267-1000-01 59267-1000-02 59267-1000-03 NDC Units reported as “UN1”
91305	Z23	0051A (1 st dose) 0052A (2 nd dose) 0053A (3 rd dose) 0054A (booster)	Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine (Ready to Use)	0.3mL	59267-1025-01 59267-1025-02 59267-1025-03 59267-1025-04 NDC Units reported as “UN1”
91307	Z23	0071A (1st dose) 0072A (2nd dose)	Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine (Pediatric dose)	0.2mL	59267-1055-01 59267-1055-02 59267-1055-04 NDC Units reported as “UN1”
91301	Z23	0011A (1 st dose) 0012A (2 nd dose) 0013A (3 rd dose)	Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine	0.5mL	80777-0273-10 80777-0273-99 NDC Units reported as “UN1”
91306	Z23	0014A (booster)	Moderna COVID- 19 Vaccine Booster	0.25mL	80777-0273-10 NDC Units reported as “UN1”
91303	Z23	0031A (single dose)	Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine	0.5mL	59676-0580-05 59676-0580-15 NDC Units reported as “UN1”
91303	Z23	0034A (booster)	Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine Booster	0.5mL	59676-0580-05 59676-0580-15 NDC Units reported as “UN1”

Medicare COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Billing Guidance

For COVID-19 vaccines administered on or after March 15, 2021; additional doses of the COVID-19 vaccine

administered to immunocompromised individuals on or after August 12, 2021; and booster doses administered to certain populations on or after September 22, 2021, for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine and October 20, 2021, for the Moderna and Janssen vaccines, the Medicare payment rates for administering the vaccines are:

- Approximately \$40 for single-dose vaccines
- For vaccines requiring multiple doses, approximately \$40 for each dose in the series, including any additional doses and booster doses

For dates of service on or after March 15, 2021:

- Administration (per dose) of a COVID-19 vaccine - \$40.00
 - You'll be able to bill on single claims for COVID-19 shot administration or submit claims on a roster bill for multiple patients at one time.
 - When COVID-19 vaccine doses are provided by the government without charge, only bill for the vaccine administration. **Don't include the vaccine codes on the claim when the vaccines are free.**
 - If you participate in a Medicare Advantage Plan, submit your COVID-19 claims to Original Medicare for all patients enrolled in Medicare Advantage in 2020 and 2021.

For dates of service on or after June 8, 2021:

- Administration (per dose) of a COVID-19 dose in the home – *additional* \$35
 - Medicare will pay the \$35 amount in addition to the standard administration amount (approximately \$40 per COVID-19 vaccine dose), when billing M0201, for a total payment of approximately \$75 for a vaccine dose administered in a patient's home.
 - View the [infographic](#) on [CMS.gov](#) for additional details

Private Payers Coding and Billing Guidance

In North Carolina, all the private payers have adopted AMA codes as specified above. All currently reimburse based on Medicare or Medicaid rates for the administration fee. Specific information from each payer is linked below.

NC Insurers COVID-specific Resources

- [Aetna](#)
- [Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina](#)
- [Cigna](#)
- [Humana](#)
- [United Healthcare](#)

NC Medicaid & NC Health Choice COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Billing Guidance

Effective March 15, 2021 NC Medicaid aligned reimbursement for COVID-19 vaccine administration with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) increased Medicare rate of \$40 for the administration of single-dose COVID-19 vaccines (including \$40 for each subsequent dose required as part of a series).

For dates of service on or after March 15, 2021:

- Administration (per dose) of a COVID-19 vaccine - \$40.00
 - The ICD-10-CM diagnosis code required for billing is: Z23 - Encounter for immunization
 - Providers must bill 11-digit NDCs
 - The NDC units should be reported as "UN1"
- Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine 0.3mL = 1 unit
- Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Booster 0.3mL = 1 unit
- Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine 0.2mL = 1unit

- Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine 0.5mL = 1 unit
- Moderna COVID-19 Booster 0.25mL = 1 unit
- Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine 0.5mL = 1 unit
- Janssen COVID-19 Booster 0.5mL = 1 unit
 - Claims must contain both administration codes and vaccine codes to pay.
 - Vaccine codes should be reported as \$0.00.
 - Claims for first vaccine dose must have been processed prior to processing a claim for second dose.
 - Modifiers
- TJ modifier should be used for NC Health Choice claims (age 6 through 18 years).
- EP modifier should be used for all non-NC Health Choice (only Medicaid beneficiaries) younger than 21 years of age.

NC Medicaid: Special Bulletin COVID-19 [#165](#): Update to Approved Vaccines Covered by NC Medicaid

As of March 11, 2021, North Carolina will be covering all approved COVID-19 vaccines to include the following limited benefit eligibility groups: **COVID-19 testing limited benefit group, Family Planning, and women who qualify due to pregnancy**. Vaccine providers may bill Medicaid if it is determined that the beneficiary is in one of these limited eligibility groups. Claims are now reimbursable even if originally denied for one of several reasons listed in the Medicaid COVID-19 Special Bulletin.

NC Medicaid: Special Bulletin COVID-19 [#168](#): Vaccination Counseling Code Reimbursement

Effective June 22, 2021, CPT **99401**: *Preventative medicine counseling and/or risk factor reduction intervention(s) provided to an individual, up to 15 minutes* has been added to counsel Medicaid beneficiaries regarding the benefits of receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

CPT 99401 can be billed at only one visit for each beneficiary per day, but there are not quantity limits for the number of times this education is provided to an individual beneficiary.

NC Medicaid: Special Bulletin COVID-19 [#184](#): Update on Vaccination Counseling Code Reimbursement

Vaccination counseling, 99401, coverage date has been extended from Sept. 22, 2021 to March 31, 2022.

NC Medicaid: Special Bulletin COVID-19 [#176](#): Third COVID-19 Vaccine Available

On August 12, 2021, the FDA modified the Emergency Use Authorizations (EUAs) for [Pfizer-BioNTech](#) COVID-19 vaccine and [Moderna](#) COVID-19 vaccine to allow for administration of an additional dose (e.g., a third dose) of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine after an initial two-dose primary mRNA COVID-19 vaccine series for certain immunocompromised people (e.g., people who have undergone solid organ transplantation or have been diagnosed with conditions that are considered to have an equivalent level of immunocompromise).

NC Medicaid: Special Bulletin COVID-19 [#186](#): Booster Dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine

Beginning Sept. 24, 2021, NC Medicaid vaccine providers may begin administering the booster dose of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine to those beneficiaries who qualify and by self-attestation. Payment amount will be equivalent as for other doses of the COVID-19 vaccine at \$40.00 each.

NC Medicaid: Special Bulletin COVID-19 [#195](#): Booster Dose of Pfizer, Moderna and Janssen Vaccines

Beginning Oct 20, 2021, NC Medicaid vaccine providers may begin administering the booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine to those beneficiaries who qualify and by self-attestation. Payment amount will be equivalent to other doses of the COVID-19 vaccine at \$40 each.

NC Medicaid: Special Bulletin COVID-19 [#196](#): Pfizer Pediatric Vaccine Authorized

Pfizer Pediatric COVID-19 vaccine is authorized for use under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for active immunization to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) in individuals five years and older. Effective with date of service Oct. 29, 2021, the Medicaid and NC Health Choice programs cover Pfizer Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine for use in the Physician Administered Drug Program (PADP) when billed with HCPCS code 91307.

NC Medicaid: Special Bulletin COVID-19 [#198](#): Pfizer Vaccine for 12 Years and Older

Effective with date of service Sept. 29, 2021, the Medicaid and NC Health Choice programs cover Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine (12 years of age and older) - does not require dilution for use in the Physician Administered Drug Program (PADP) when billed with HCPCS code 91305.

Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) COVID-19 Uninsured Program Coding and Billing for COVID-19 Vaccine Administration

Effective March 15, 2021, HRSA COVID-19 Uninsured Program's has increased reimbursement of COVID-19 vaccine administration.

For dates of service on or after March 15, 2021:

- Administration (per dose) of a COVID-19 vaccine - \$40.00

Claims submitted for the administration of an FDA-licensed or authorized vaccine must be submitted as single line item claims, and must include one of the following codes to be eligible for reimbursement:

- Pfizer: 0001A, 0002A, 0003A, 0004A
- Moderna: 0011A, 0012A, 0013A
- Janssen: 0031A

Please note that only the administration of the vaccine is eligible for reimbursement through the HRSA COVID-19 Uninsured Program. Visit [HRSA's Uninsured Program website](#) for these guidelines.

As of the date of the release of this document, HRSA has not released additional coding and billing guidance regarding the Moderna & Janssen COVID-19 boosters and Pfizer's pediatric COVID-19 vaccines.

Additional notes on billing for vaccinations:

Evaluation by Provider related to COVID-19 Vaccination: A provider that consults a patient, either in-person or telemedicine, for the purpose of evaluation of history and/or examination/assessment for receiving the COVID-19 vaccination may code and bill the appropriate evaluation and management service code for services rendered. The record of these visits must meet documentation standards required for reimbursement of services.

Reporting of COVID-19 vaccine codes: Although COVID-19 vaccines are not reimbursable at this time, payers may require providers to report the specific COVID-19 vaccine with a zero charge in order to be reimbursed for administration of the vaccine. Currently, NC Medicaid and NC Health Choice require the reporting of vaccine CPT codes.

Additional Resources

Physician Professional Associations

[American Academy of Family Practice: Vaccine Coverage Requirements and Preliminary Payment Guidance](#)

[American Academy of Pediatrics: COVID-19 Vaccine Administration: Getting Paid](#)

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

<https://www.cms.gov/covidvax>

COVID-19 Special Medicaid Bulletins

<https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/about-us/covid-19-guidance-and-resources/providers/covid-19-special-medicoid-bulletins>

Health Resources and Services Administration COVID-19 Claims Reimbursement

<https://coviduninsuredclaim.linkhealth.com/billing-codes.html>

For Local Health Departments, Local Technical Assistance & Training Branch

<https://publichealth.nc.gov/lhd/>