

Apple Health (Medicaid) COVID-19 vaccine clinical policy

In this time of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Health Care Authority is aware that usual and customary ways of providing and billing/reporting services may not be feasible. It is also understood that different providers will have different capabilities. Therefore, in the interest of public health, HCA's Apple Health (Medicaid) program is trying to be as flexible as possible and is creating new policies that will allow you to provide medically necessary services and bill or report the encounter with the most appropriate code you determine applicable, using the guidance below.

COVID-19 vaccine clinical policy

The following policy applies to fee-for-service (FFS) and HCA-contracted managed care organizations (MCOs).

Cost

The vaccines have been purchased by the federal government and are being provided free of charge to providers that have enrolled in the federal [COVID-19 Vaccination Program](#) or the [Washington State Department of Health COVID – 19 Vaccination Program](#).

Providers

Must have enrolled with either Washington State Department of Health or the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to administer COVID-19 vaccine shots.

Must have a Core Provider Agreement with Apple Health (Medicaid) whose scope of practice includes vaccine administration.

Pharmacist/Pharmacies (effective date 2/15/2021)

Pharmacists may prescribe, administer, and bill for COVID-19 vaccine administration.

Apple Health will reimburse for COVID-19 vaccine administration when administered by a pharmacy technician or a pharmacy intern under immediate supervision of a pharmacist with an ancillary utilization plan (AUP) approved by the Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission. To bill for these services, the pharmacist who delegates the task should be entered as the servicing provider.

Clinics billing for this service when performed by a pharmacist should follow the standard billing procedures.

Pharmacists billing for this service must bill on a HIPAA 837 transaction using the billing taxonomy of 193200000X.

Pharmacies may bill for COVID-19 vaccine administration when the performing provider is a pharmacist.

- For the fee-for-service program, bill as a HIPAA 837 transaction using the pharmacy billing taxonomy of 193200000X and include the place of service.
- For agency-contracted managed care organizations (MCOs), bill as a pharmacy point-of-sale transaction and follow NCPDP standards.

Eligibility

Retroactive to dates of service on and after April 1, 2021, COVID vaccine administration is a covered service for Family Planning Only clients.

Reporting Requirements

Providers must adhere to the reporting requirements as dictated by the Washington State Department of Health as a condition for participation in the COVID-19 Vaccination Program, to ensure data entry into the Washington Immunization Information System (WAIS) or another system designated by the CDC according to CDC documentation and data requirements.

Reimbursement information and billing guidance (Revised 4/12/2021)

The vaccines and vaccine administration codes listed in the table below, are covered by Apple Health (Medicaid).

The Health Care Authority is waiting for approval from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to allow template billing for COVID-19 mass vaccinations. As soon as we have the approval, you will be able to submit claims via template billing if you are providing vaccines to MCO and FFS clients during a mass vaccination event. We expect to have this approval soon and will send another notice informing you that template billing is allowed.

Other options to bill for vaccines for fee-for-service clients are:

1. Bill each individual claim. See instructions in [ProviderOne Billing Guide](#) under the *Direct Data Entry* section.
2. Use batch 837. See instructions in [ProviderOne Billing Guide](#) under *Batch Submission (837)* section.

When billing for vaccine administration, HCA is no longer requesting that you bill the vaccine with the vaccine administration code. If you do submit a claim with both the vaccine and the vaccine administration codes, HCA (Medicaid) will pay for the vaccine administration fee, but will not pay for the vaccine itself since the COVID-19 vaccine is provided by the federal government without charge. If the COVID vaccine administration is the only service provided then do not bill for an E/M.

Indian Health Service Providers

The encounter rate is payable for Medicaid covered professional services following the Tribal Health Billing Guide. The encounter rate is not payable for drugs/pharmaceuticals.

FQHCs and RHCs

The COVID-19 vaccine administration codes listed below are not encounter eligible for Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) or Rural Health Clinics (RHCs).

Outpatient Hospital (OPPS) (Revised 3/8/2021)

When billing for the vaccine and the vaccine administration in an OPPS setting, the location revenue code must be used, not the vaccine administration revenue code. Any claims that have been denied due to noncoverage of revenue code 0771 should be resubmitted with the location revenue code for services provided for dates of service prior to February 15, 2021.

Effective for dates of service on and after February 15, 2021, when billing for COVID vaccine and vaccine administration in an OPPS setting, use revenue code 0771. This policy does not apply to other vaccines.

Please see the [COVID-19 fee schedule](#) for rates and effective dates.

COVID Vaccine and Vaccine Administration

CPT®/HCPCS Code	Short Description	Labeler
91300	SARSCOV2 VAC 30MCG/0.3ML IM	Pfizer
0001A	ADM SARSCOV2 30MCG/0.3ML 1 ST	Pfizer
0002A	ADM SARSCOV2 30MCG/0.3ML 2 ND	Pfizer
91301	SARSCOV2 VAC 100MCG/0.5ML IM	Moderna
0011A	ADM SARSCOV2 100MCG/0.5ML1ST	Moderna
0012A	ADM SARSCOV2 100MCG/0.5ML2ND	Moderna
91303	SARSCOV2 VAC AD26 .5ML IM	Janssen
0031A	ADM SARSCOV2 VAC AD26 .5ML	Janssen