

Apple Health (Medicaid) COVID-19 vaccine clinical policy

****See updates in red****

In this time of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Health Care Authority (HCA) 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 Administration 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

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.
- 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. Enter 01 (Home) into the patient residence (field 384-4X). Enter the fee for vaccine administration into the incentive amount submitted (field 438-E30)

Special 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 (WAIIS) or another system designated by the CDC according to CDC documentation and data requirements.

Reimbursement information and billing guidance (Revised 5/12/2021)

The vaccines and vaccine administration codes listed in the [COVID Vaccine and Vaccine Administration Table](#) are covered by Apple Health (Medicaid).

HCA is now allowing [template billing for COVID-19 mass vaccination](#). This policy is retroactive to claims with dates of service on and after April 1, 2021.

HCA considers a mass vaccination a time in which the providers is providing COVID-19 vaccines to many people.

During the public health emergency (PHE), HCA is allowing providers to submit template billing claims through ProviderOne, for both fee for service and MCO clients. This is the only time/situation that a provider is allowed to bill through ProviderOne for a managed care client.

When submitting template billing, the servicing provider must be included. The exception to that rule is if the servicing provider is a volunteer. If the servicing provider is a volunteer, then only the billing provider is required. A volunteer must have vaccine administration within their scope of practice and is someone that is not typically linked to your organization and not being paid for the service.

Please see instructions in the [template billing presentation](#) or in HCA's [ProviderOne Billing Guide](#) in the *template billing* section.

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.

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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

COVID-19 counseling CPT® codes 99211-99215, 99401, and 99441-99443 are encounter eligible for FQHCs and RHCs when billed by an encounter eligible provider as outlined in WACs 182-548-1300(1) and 182-549-1300(1). The agency pays for one encounter per day for FQHCs and RHCs unless there are separate visits with separate diagnosis; or the visits are performed by providers with different specialties. Registered nurses and medical assistants are not encounter eligible provider types in the RHC and FQHC setting.

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 Table

| CPT® or HCPCS | Short Description | Labeler | Vaccine/Procedure Name |
|---------------|------------------------------|---------|---|
| 0031A | ADM SARSCOV2 VAC AD26 .5ML | Janssen | Janssen Covid-19 Vaccine Admin- 1 st Dose |
| 0034A | ADM SARSCOV2 VAC AD26 .5ML B | Janssen | Janssen Covid-19 Vaccine Admin- Booster |
| 91303 | SARSCOV2 VAC AD26 .5ML IM | Janssen | Janssen Covid-19 Vaccine |
| 0011A | ADM SARSCOV2 100MCG/0.5ML1ST | Moderna | Moderna Covid-19 Vaccine Admin- 1 st Dose |
| 0012A | ADM SARSCOV 100MCG/0.5ML2ND | Moderna | Moderna Covid-19 Vaccine Admin- 2 nd Dose |
| 0013A | ADM SARSCOV2 100MCG/0.5ML3RD | Moderna | Moderna Covid-19 Vaccine Admin- 3 rd Dose |
| 0064A | ADM SARSCOV2 50MCG/0.25MLBST | Moderna | Moderna Covid-19 Vaccine Admin- Low Dose Booster |
| 0091A | ADM SARSCOV2 50 MCG/.5 ML1ST | Moderna | Moderna Covid-19 Pediatric Vaccine (Aged 6 years through 11 years) (Blue Cap with purple border) Administration - First dose |
| 0092A | ADM SARSCOV2 50 MCG/.5 ML2ND | Moderna | Moderna Covid-19 Pediatric Vaccine (Aged 6 years through 11 years) (Blue Cap with purple border) Administration - Second dose |
| 0093A | ADM SARSCOV2 50 MCG/.5 ML3RD | Moderna | Moderna Covid-19 Pediatric Vaccine (Aged 6 years through 11 years) (Blue Cap with purple border) Administration - Third dose |
| 0094A | ADM SARSCOV2 50MCG/0.5 MLBST | Moderna | Moderna Covid-19 Vaccine Admin 0.5 ML IM Booster |

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| CPT® or HCPCS | Short Description | Labeler | Vaccine/Procedure Name |
|---------------|-------------------------------|---------|--|
| 0111A | ADM SARSCOV2 25MCG/0.25ML1ST | Moderna | Moderna Covid-19 Pediatric Vaccine (Aged 6 months through 5 years) (Blue Cap with magenta border) Administration - First dose |
| 0112A | ADM SARSCOV2 25MCG/0.25ML2ND | Moderna | Moderna Covid-19 Pediatric Vaccine (Aged 6 months through 5 years) (Blue Cap with magenta border) Administration - Second dose |
| 0113A | ADM SARSCOV2 25MCG/0.25ML3RD | Moderna | Moderna Covid-19 Pediatric Vaccine (Aged 6 months through 5 years) (Blue Cap with magenta border) Administration - Third dose |
| 0134A | ADM SARSCV2 BVL 50MCG/.5ML B | Moderna | Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent (Aged 18 years and older) (Dark Blue Cap with gray border) Administration—Booster Dose Eff. 08/31/2022 |
| 0144A | ADM SARCV2 BVL 25MCG/.25ML B | Moderna | Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent (Aged 6 years through 11 years) (Dark Blue Cap with gray border) Administration – Booster Dose Eff. 10/12/2022 |
| 0164A | ADM SRSCV2 BVL 10MCG/0.2ML B | Moderna | Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent (Aged 6 months through 5 years) Administration—Booster dose Eff. 12/8/2022 |
| 91301 | SARSCOV2 VAC 100MCG/0.5ML IM | Moderna | Moderna Covid-19 Vaccine |
| 91306 | SARSCOV2 VAC 50MCG/0.25ML IM | Moderna | Moderna Covid-19 Vaccine Low Dose Adult Booster |
| 91309 | SARSCOV2 VAC 50MCG/0.5ML IM | Moderna | Moderna Covid-19 Vaccine 0.5 ML IM Adult Booster |
| 91311 | SARSCOV2 VAC 25MCG/0.25ML IM | Moderna | Moderna Covid-19 Pediatric Vaccine (Aged 6 months through 5 years) (Blue Cap with magenta border) 250MCG/0.25ML |
| 91313 | SARSCOV2 VAC BVL 50MCG/0.5ML | Moderna | Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent Product (Aged 18 years and older) (Dark Blue Cap with gray border) Eff. 08/31/2022 |
| 91314 | SARCOV2 VAC BVL 25 MCG/0.25ML | Moderna | Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent Product (Aged 6 years through 11 years) (Dark Blue Cap with gray border) Eff. 10/12/2022 |
| 91316 | SARSCOV2 VAC BVL 10MCG/0.2ML | Moderna | Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent Product (Aged 6 months through 5 years) Eff. 12/8/2022 |
| 0041A | ADM SARSCOV2 5MCG/0.5ML1ST | Novavax | Novavax Covid-19 Vaccine, Adjuvanted Administration – First Dose |
| 0042A | ADM SARSCOV2 5MCG/0.5ML2ND | Novavax | Novavax Covid-19 Vaccine, Adjuvanted Administration – Second Dose |
| 0044A | ADM SARSCOV2 5MCG/0.5ML BST | Novavax | Novavax Covid-19 Vaccine, Adjuvanted Administration – Booster |

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| CPT® or HCPCS | Short Description | Labeler | Vaccine/Procedure Name |
|---------------|--|---------|--|
| 91304 | SARSCOV2 VAC 5MCG/0.5ML IM | Novavax | Novavax Covid-19 Vaccine, Adjuvanted (Aged 18 years and older) |
| 0001A | ADM SARSCOV2 30MCG/0.3ML 1 ST | Pfizer | Pfizer Covid-19 Vaccine Admin – 1 st Dose (Adult) |
| 0002A | ADM SARSCOV2 30MCG/0.3ML 2 ND | Pfizer | Pfizer Covid-19 Vaccine Admin – 2 nd Dose (Adult) |
| 0003A | ADM SARSCOV2 30MCG/0.3ML 3 RD | Pfizer | Pfizer Covid-19 Vaccine Admin – 3 rd Dose (Adult) |
| 0004A | ADM SARSCOV2 30MCG/0.3ML BST | Pfizer | Pfizer Covid-19 Vaccine Admin – Booster (Adult) |
| 0051A | ADM SARSCV2 30MCG TRS-SUCR 1 | Pfizer | Pfizer Covid-19 Ped Vaccine Admin- 1 st Dose (12+) |
| 0052A | ADM SARSCV2 30MCG TRS-SUCR 2 | Pfizer | Pfizer Covid-19 Ped Vaccine Admin- 2 nd Dose (12+) |
| 0053A | ADM SARSCV2 30MCG TRS-SUCR 3 | Pfizer | Pfizer Covid-19 Ped Vaccine Admin- 3 rd Dose (12+) |
| 0054A | ADM SARSCV2 30MCG TRS-SUCR B | Pfizer | Pfizer Covid-19 Ped Vaccine Admin- Booster (12+) |
| 0071A | ADM SARSCV2 10MCG TRS-SUCR 1 | Pfizer | Pfizer Covid-19 Ped Vaccine Admin- 1 st Dose (5-11) |
| 0072A | ADM SARSCV2 10MCG TRS-SUCR 2 | Pfizer | Pfizer Covid-19 Ped Vaccine Admin- 2 nd Dose (5-11) |
| 0073A | ADM SARSCV2 10MCG TRS-SUCR 3 | Pfizer | Pfizer Covid-19 Ped Vaccine Admin- 3 rd Dose (5-11) |
| 0074A | ADM SARSCV2 10MCG TRS-SUCR B | Pfizer | Pfizer BioNTech Covid-19 Ped Vaccine Admin-Booster (5-11) Eff. 05/17/2022 |
| 0081A | ADM SARSCOV2 3MCG TRS-SUCR 1 | Pfizer | Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Pediatric Vaccine (Aged 6 months through 4 years) (Maroon Cap) Administration – first dose Eff. 06/17/22 |
| 0082A | ADM SARSCOV2 3MCG TRS-SUCR 2 | Pfizer | Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Pediatric Vaccine (Aged 6 months through 4 years) (Maroon Cap) Administration – second dose Eff. 06/17/22 |
| 0083A | ADM SARSCOV2 3MCG TRS-SUCR3 | Pfizer | Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Pediatric Vaccine (Aged 6 months through 4 years) (Maroon Cap) Administration – third dose Eff. 06/17/22 |
| 0124A | ADM SARSCV2 BVL 30MCG/.3ML B | Pfizer | Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Bivalent (Gray Cap) Administration—Booster Dose Eff. 08/31/2022 |
| 0154A | ADM SARSCV2 BVL 10 MCG/0.2ML B | Pfizer | Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent Product (Aged 5 years through 11 years) (Orange Cap) Administration – Booster Dose Eff. 10/12/2022 |
| 0173A | ADM SARSCV2 BVL 3MCG/0.2ML 3 | Pfizer | Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent Product (Aged 6 months through 4 years) Administration Eff. 12/8/2022 |
| 91300 | SARSCOV2 VAC 30MCG/0.3ML IM | Pfizer | Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 Vaccine (Adult) |
| 91305 | SARSCOV2 VAC 30 MCG TRS-SUCR | Pfizer | Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 Pediatric Vaccine (12+) |
| 91307 | SARSCOV2 VAC 10 MCG TRS-SUCR | Pfizer | Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 Pediatric Vaccine (5-11) |

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| CPT® or HCPCS | Short Description | Labeler | Vaccine/Procedure Name |
|---------------|-----------------------------|---------|--|
| 91308 | SARSCOV2 VAC 3MCG TRS-SUCR | Pfizer | Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Pediatric Vaccine (Aged 6 months through 4 years) (Maroon Cap) Eff. 06/17/22 |
| 91312 | SARSCOV2 VAC BVL 30MCG/0.3M | Pfizer | Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent Product (Aged 12 years and older) (Gray Cap) Eff. 08/31/2022 |
| 91315 | SARCOV2 VAC BVL 10MCG/0.2ML | Pfizer | Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent Product (Aged 5 years through 11 years) (Orange Cap) Eff. 10/12/2022 |
| 91317 | SARSCOV2 VAC BVL 3MCG/0.2ML | Pfizer | Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent Product (Aged 6 months through 4 years) Eff. 12/8/2022 |

Vaccination in the home

The additional payment for administering the COVID-19 vaccine in the home is covered for the following:

- The patient has a condition that makes them more susceptible to contracting a pandemic disease such as COVID-19.
- The patient is generally unable to leave the home, and if they do leave home, it requires a considerable and taxing effort.
- The patient has a disability or faces clinical, socioeconomic, or geographical barriers to getting a COVID-19 vaccine in settings other than their home.
- The patient faces challenges that significantly reduce their ability to get vaccinated outside the home, such as challenges with transportation, communication, or caregiving.

For more information, please see the CMS policy [Additional Payment for Administering the Vaccine in the Patient's Home](#).

| CPT®/HCPCS Code | Short Description | Labeler |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| M0201 | Covid-19 vaccine home admin | Home vaccine admin |

Provider Reimbursement for COVID-19 Vaccine Counseling Visits

Counseling Visits

A Counseling Visit is a conversation between a provider or qualified health professional, nurse, or medical assistant, and a patient about the COVID-19 vaccine. Conversations may include topics such as patient's reasons for not being vaccinated, addressing concerns identified by the patient, providing tailored and individualized medical advice regarding COVID-19 vaccine for that patient, and providing resources about how to get a COVID-19 vaccine if applicable. Counseling Visits should be documented in a patient's medical record according to standard documentation guidelines.

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Vaccination Status

The provider must check a client's vaccination status in the provider's medical records and the Department of Health WAIS database. Immunization registry checks may be performed within a reasonable timeframe of the vaccine counseling visit to accommodate for data lags. If there is no indication that the patient is vaccinated, or there is indication that the patient is only partially vaccinated, the provider can reach out to the client for a counseling visit. If immunization registry checks are infeasible, client attestation to vaccination status is acceptable.

Billing Information

Providers and qualified health professionals

Providers who counsel patients about COVID-19 vaccine information and availability can bill in the following ways (Please review AMA CPT® guidelines for code guidance):

1. If the provider is already seeing the patient for a prescheduled visit, and counseling for COVID-19 vaccination increases complexity of the visit or the time spent with the patient, the provider may account for this by choosing the appropriate E/M level.
2. The provider may bill 99401 using modifier 25 in addition to billing EM visit. The E/M visit in this case should not include the time spent on COVID counseling.
3. The provider may bill 99401 individually, if no E/M visit occurred and COVID vaccine counseling was provided.

Nurses/Medical Assistants

Nurses and medical assistants who counsel patients about COVID-19 vaccine information and availability can bill using CPT® code 99211 (Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of an established patient that may not require the presence of a physician. Usually, the presenting problem(s) are minimal).

Other Billing Details

- The claim must include either ICD-10 diagnosis code **Z71.89** (other specified counseling) or **Z71.85** (encounter for immunization safety counseling) in the primary position **and the CR modifier**.
- Providers performing Counseling Visits should be prepared to provide vaccine or be able to refer to appropriate, accessible vaccine sites for the member in counseling.
- If the patient receives the vaccine in office after a counseling visit, additionally use the appropriate CPT codes for Vaccine Administration which may be billed the same date of service.
- Telemedicine (real time audio visual) visits can be billed with place of service 02 (see [Physician-related /professional services billing guide](#) for more detailed information).
- Use **POS 10** for when patient is at home starting January 1, 2022. **Note:** Providers may begin billing using POS 10 on 1/1/22, but HCA has extended the effective date to 4/4/22.
- During the Public Health Emergency (PHE), Use **-CR** modifier to denote when service provided over the phone/audio-only. Use **93 modifier** starting January 1, 2022
- If this service is provided via audio-only then the provider must obtain patient consent for the billing in advance of the service being delivered.
- No facility fee can be charged for counseling billed by a hospital owned or affiliated physician practice or other practice site.

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Materials to assist provider conversations with patients:

- [Talking points for providers \(PDF\)](#)
- [Addressing Vaccine Hesitancy \(PDF\)](#)
- [Provider Discussion Guide: Building Confidence in the Johnson & Johnson Vaccine \(PDF\)](#)
- [Provider Discussion Guide: Building Confidence in COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines \(PDF\)](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccine for preteens and teens \(PDF\) \(CDC\)](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccine conversations with patients \(CDC\)](#)
- [Additional resources for healthcare providers.](#)
- [Pro-Equity strategies for supporting patient access to vaccine.](#)

Patient resources:

- [Factsheet about COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [Vaccinate WA: Find COVID-19 Vaccine Appointments Near You](#)

Telehealth policy, billing, or coding questions:

Email HCA with any telehealth policy, billing, or coding questions.

Policy history

| Date | Action and summary of changes |
|------------|--|
| 12/28/21 | Effective date for POS 10 extended to 4/4/22, 99401 retroactive to 6/22/21 to match other codes, FQHC/RHC section updated. |
| 1/10/22 | Provider and Qualified Health Professional Section updated to clarify billing options for COVID-19 Vaccine Counseling. |
| 1/18/22 | Administration code for Pfizer pediatric third dose added to table (0073A) |
| 1/25/22 | Updated vaccine administration table- added 91305 and associated vaccine administration codes. |
| 2/9/22 | Updated vaccine counseling section to open counseling to new and established patients. |
| 4/15/22 | Updated Vaccine and Vaccine Administration table to include Moderna booster 0.5 ML |
| 4/27/22 | Updated FQ modifier to 93 in <i>Other Billing</i> section |
| 7/11/22 | Updated vaccine administration table – added 91308 and associated vaccine administration codes. Eff 6/17/2022 |
| 9/15/2022 | Updated vaccine administration table – added 91312 and associated vaccine administration code 0124A, and 91313 and associated vaccine administration code 0134A. Eff 8/31/2022. |
| 10/12/2022 | Updated vaccine administration table – added 91314 and associated vaccine administration code 0144A, and 91315 and associated vaccine administration code 0154A. Eff 10/12/2022. |
| 11/22/2022 | Updated vaccine administration table – added vaccine administration code 0044A |

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|-------------------|--|
| 12/22/2022 | Updated vaccine administration table – added procedure code 91316 and associated vaccine administration procedure code 0164A and procedure code 91317 and associated vaccine administration procedure code 0173A |
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