



<b>ISSUE DATE</b> May 25, 2013	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b> May 28, 2013	<b>NUMBER</b> 01-13-18, 08-13-18, 09-13-19, 31-13-20, 33-13-19
<b>SUBJECT</b> Addition to the Medical Assistance Program Fee Schedule for Administration of Flu Vaccine Derived from Cell Cultures: Flucelvax®		<b>BY</b>  Vincent D. Gordon, Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this bulletin is to inform Medical Assistance (MA) providers that, effective for dates of service on and after May 28, 2013, the Department of Public Welfare (Department) is adding procedure code 90661 to the MA Program Fee Schedule for the administration of flu vaccine derived from cell cultures, such as Flucelvax®.

**SCOPE:**

This bulletin applies to all physicians, certified registered nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives, outpatient hospitals and independent medical surgical clinics enrolled in the MA Program who administer immunizations to MA beneficiaries in the MA Fee-For-Service delivery system, and the MA Managed Care delivery system. Providers rendering services to MA beneficiaries under the MA Managed Care delivery system should address any coding or rate-related questions to the appropriate managed care organization (MCO).

**BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:**

On November 20, 2012, the FDA approved the use of Flucelvax®, manufactured by Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics, for individuals 18 through 64 years of age. Flucelvax® is the first seasonal influenza vaccine licensed in the United States produced using cultured animal cells, instead of fertilized chicken eggs. In the event of a pandemic, cell culture technology allows for faster startup of the vaccine manufacturing process than conventional egg-based influenza vaccine production.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that all persons six months of age and older should be vaccinated against influenza disease.

The Department added Flucelvax® to the MA Program Drug Fee Schedule on December 10, 2012, to identify payment for the vaccine. The Department is updating the MA Program Fee Schedule to allow payment for the administration of influenza virus vaccine derived from cell cultures, such as Flucelvax®, for MA beneficiaries 18 through 64 years of

**COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:**

The appropriate toll free number for your provider type

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs Web site at  
<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/provider/healthcaremedicalassistance/index.htm>

age, effective for dates of service on and after May 28, 2013. In the interim, MA providers may bill for the administration of the Flucelvax® vaccine using CPT code 90749 (unlisted vaccine/toxoid).

**PROCEDURE:**

Effective for dates of service on and after May 28, 2013, MA providers should bill the Department using CPT code 90661 (influenza virus vaccine, derived from cell cultures, subunit, preservative and antibiotic free, for intramuscular use) for the administration of Flucelvax® for MA beneficiaries 18 through 64 years of age.

CPT Code	Description	MA Fee
90661	Influenza virus vaccine, derived from cell cultures, subunit, preservative and antibiotic free, for intramuscular use (Flucelvax®)	\$10.00

For administration of Flucelvax® for MA beneficiaries 18 through 64 years of age during the period December 10, 2012, through May 27, 2013, providers should bill the Department using CPT code 90749 (unlisted vaccine/toxoid).

The MA fee for the administration of each vaccine is \$10.00 per administration. Providers participating in an MA MCO network must abide by payment arrangements as stated in their individual MCO contract.

Attached is the “Addition to the Medical Assistance Program Fee Schedule: Procedure Code for the Administration of a Vaccine, Effective for dates of service on and after May 28, 2013”. The document identifies the procedure code, national code description, provider type, provider specialty, place of service, pricing modifier(s), informational modifier(s), MA fee, and applicable requirements for prior authorization or fee limits for the procedure code discussed in this MA Bulletin. The MA Program Fee Schedule has been updated to reflect this addition.

Providers may access the on-line version of the MA Program Fee Schedule under the Department’s website at:

[http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/publications/forproviders/schedules/mafeeschedules/S\\_001967](http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/publications/forproviders/schedules/mafeeschedules/S_001967)

MA providers may bill the Department for the Flucelvax® vaccine by indicating, on the claim submission, the appropriate National Drug Code for the vaccine dispensed. The effective date for coverage of the vaccine under the MA pharmacy benefit is December 10, 2012. Providers may access the online version of the MA Drug Fee Schedule under the Department’s website at:

<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/publications/forproviders/schedules/drugfeeschedule/index.htm>.

**ATTACHMENT:**

[Addition to the Medical Assistance Program Fee Schedule: Procedure Code for Administration of a Vaccine, Effective for dates of service on and after May 28, 2013](#)