


<b>ISSUE DATE</b>  December 30, 2021	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>  November 1, 2021	<b>NUMBER</b>  *See below
<b>SUBJECT</b>  Vaccine Administration by Pharmacists – Pharmacy Services		<b>BY</b>   Sally A. Kozak, Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** All providers must revalidate the Medical Assistance (MA) enrollment of each service location every 5 years. Providers should log into PROMISE to check the revalidation dates of each service location and submit revalidation applications at least 60 days prior to the revalidation dates. Enrollment (revalidation) applications may be found at: <https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/PROMISE-Enrollment.aspx>.

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this bulletin is to:

1. Inform pharmacies that the Medical Assistance (MA) Program will pay pharmacies for the administration of vaccines to MA beneficiaries by licensed pharmacists, effective November 1, 2021.
2. Provide instructions for pharmacies to submit claims for the administration of vaccines by pharmacists to MA beneficiaries in the fee-for-service (FFS) delivery system.

**SCOPE:**

This bulletin applies to all licensed pharmacies enrolled in the MA Program that provide services in the FFS delivery system and in the managed care delivery systems. Pharmacies rendering services to MA beneficiaries in the managed care delivery system should address any questions related to vaccine administration billing and payment to the appropriate managed care organization (MCO).

*01-21-19	09-21-18	27-21-09	33-21-18
02-21-06	11-21-08	30-21-13	
03-21-06	14-21-09	31-21-21	
08-21-20	24-21-16	32-21-06	

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

Fee-for-service provider service center: 1-800-537-8862

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs website at

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Health%20Care%20for%20Providers/Contact-Information-for-Providers.aspx>.

## **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:**

The Department of Human Services (Department) has historically paid MA enrolled physicians, certified registered nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives, outpatient hospital clinics, and independent medical/surgical clinics for administration of vaccines to MA beneficiaries but did not provide payment to pharmacies for vaccine administration by pharmacists. Pharmacists who are licensed to practice pharmacy in Pennsylvania have the authority to administer injectable medications, biologicals, and vaccines under Act 699 of 1961 (Pharmacy Act) and 49 Pa. Code §§ 27.401; 403.

Some MCOs had been making payment to pharmacies for pharmacist administration of vaccines. However, as part of the response to the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) pandemic, the Department announced that in both the FFS and managed care delivery systems MA enrolled pharmacies would receive payment for the administration of the SARS-CoV-2 vaccine.

Beginning with dates of service on or after November 1, 2021, MA enrolled pharmacies in both the FFS and managed care delivery systems may receive payment for vaccine administration by pharmacists employed by or under contract with the pharmacy to MA beneficiaries in accordance with the licensed pharmacist's authority to administer vaccines under the Pharmacy Act and Department of State regulations.

Pharmacies that receive payment from another source for the administration of a vaccine may not bill or receive payment from the MA Program for the vaccine administration.

## **PROCEDURE:**

The following procedures apply to the submission of claims for vaccine products and the administration of vaccines by pharmacists to MA beneficiaries in the FFS delivery system.

### **FFS Pharmacy Claims for Vaccine Products**

Pharmacies may continue to submit claims for the vaccines for MA beneficiaries.

Pharmacies should submit claims for vaccines using the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs' (NCPDP) standard claim format or the 837 Health Care Claim: Professionals (837P) standard claim format, using the National Drug Code (NDC) and NDC units for the vaccine product that is administered.

Pharmacies may not bill the MA Program for the cost of a vaccine for MA beneficiaries under the age of 19 years when the vaccine is available through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program. Pharmacies should advise MA beneficiaries under 19 years of age, or their parents or guardians, that vaccines available through the VFC Program should be obtained from a VFC Program-eligible participating provider.

### **FFS Pharmacy Claims for Pharmacist Administration of Vaccines**

In addition to the claim for the vaccine product, pharmacies may submit an 837P claim for the administration of the vaccine by the pharmacist to a MA beneficiary. The billing and rendering provider for the administration fee claim should be the MA enrolled pharmacy's National Provider Identifier. The procedure code for the administration fee claim should be 90471 for the first or only single or combination vaccine. If more than one single or combination vaccine is administered on the same day, the procedure code for the administration fee claim should be 90472 for each additional single or combination vaccine.

**Note:** Procedure codes 90471 and 90472 are not to be used for the administration of SARS-CoV-2 vaccines.

<b>Procedure Code</b>	<b>Procedure Code Description</b>	<b>MA Fee</b>	<b>Limits</b>	<b>Prior Authorization Required</b>
90471	Immunization administration (includes percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, or intramuscular injections); 1 vaccine (single or combination vaccine/toxoid)	\$10.00	1 per day	N
90472	Immunization administration (includes percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, or intramuscular injections); each additional vaccine (single or combination vaccine/toxoid) (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)	\$10.00	3 per day	N

#### Additional FFS Pharmacy Billing Information

For billing information related to the administration of the SARS-CoV-2 vaccines, see MA Bulletins 01-20-60 and 01-21-03, linked below.

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/docs/Publications/Documents/FORMS%20AND%20PUBS%20OMAP/MAB2020123001.pdf>

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/docs/Publications/Documents/FORMS%20AND%20PUBS%20OMAP/MAB2021041901.pdf>

Updates to vaccine administration procedure codes can be accessed via the online version of the MA Program Fee Schedule on the Department's website at:

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Health%20Care%20for%20Providers/MA-Fee-Schedule.aspx>.

#### **RESOURCES:**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Vaccines for Children Program

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc/about/index.html>

PA Department of Health Vaccines for Children Program

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/programs/immunizations/Pages/VFC.aspx>

PA Department of Human Services – Fee-for-Service Pharmacy Services

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Pharmacy-Services/Pages/default.aspx>

PA Department of Human Services Bulletin Search

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/docs/For-Providers/Pages/Bulletin-Search.aspx>