

Immunizations and Vaccinations

Revised: [July 25, 2022](#)

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Overview

The [Minnesota Health Care Programs](#) (MHCP) Immunization and Vaccination program outlines coverage and billing policy for children and adults. The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) [Immunization for Health Care Providers](#) website contains best practices and other information related to the program.

Eligible Providers

The following MHCP-enrolled health care providers may bill for vaccines and toxoids, and administering vaccines and toxoids:

- Certified family nurse practitioners
- Certified nurse-midwives
- Certified pediatric nurse practitioners
- Child and Teen Checkups providers
- Clinics
- Community paramedics
- Convenience clinics
- Dental providers
- Home health agencies
- Outpatient and inpatient hospitals
- Pharmacies
- Physicians
- Podiatrists
- Public health clinics
- Public health nursing clinic providers

Additionally, the following providers are also eligible to provide vaccine counseling to members:

- Hospice
- Indian Health Facility Providers
- Optometrist
- Rehabilitation Agency'
- Renal Dialysis Free Standing Clinic
- Rural Health Clinics

Pharmacy

Pharmacists can bill for flu vaccines administered to members ages 6 and older; all other vaccines to

people who are aged 13 or older by written prescription with a physician, or advanced practice nurse or physician assistant authorized to prescribe drugs, provided that the pharmacist meets the following:

- Completion of a program approved by the American Council of Pharmaceutical Education for the administration of vaccinations or a program approved by the Board of Pharmacy
- Reports the administration of the vaccinations to the Minnesota Immunization Information Connection (MIIC)
- Uses the MIIC to assess the immunization status of a person before administering vaccines, except when administering influenza vaccines to a person age nine or older

Dental Providers

Dentists who meet all of the following requirements may administer influenza vaccines to members age 19 and older:

- Trained in or have successfully completed a program approved by the Minnesota Board of Dentistry specifically for the administration of immunizations and must submit attestation on the [Immunization Delivery for Dentists Applicant Assurance Statement \(DHS-7121\) \(PDF\)](#)
- Have immediate access to emergency response equipment, including but not limited to oxygen administration equipment, epinephrine, and other allergic reaction response equipment
- Reports the administration of the immunization to MIIC or the patient's primary physician or clinic

Community Paramedics

MHCP covers services provided by certified community paramedics for:

- Administration provided to an MHCP member who has received hospital emergency department services three or more times in four consecutive months within a twelve month period; or
- Are identified by or require one or more of the following:
- Are identified by their primary care provider at risk of nursing home placement
- May require set-up of services for discharge from a nursing home or hospital
- May require services to prevent re-admission to a nursing home or hospital

Claims must be billed by the MHCP-enrolled Medical Director of the ambulance service who employs the paramedic.

Covered Services

MHCP covers the following services:

- Vaccines
- Toxoids
- Administering vaccines and toxoids, including those available through the MnVFC program
- Office visits associated with administering vaccinations when the appointment is not solely to administer vaccinations
- Vaccine counseling

Minnesota Vaccines for Children (MnVFC)

MHCP providers administering pediatric vaccines within the scope of their licensure, and who are enrolled as a medical assistance provider, must enroll in the [Minnesota Vaccines for Children](#) (MnVFC) program. The MnVFC program provides public purchased vaccines for children ages 0-18 years at no cost. These vaccines meet the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and are approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

MHCP does not reimburse for MnVFC covered vaccines purchased outside the program, but will pay for the administration of those vaccinations.

Seasonal Influenza Vaccines

Pediatric flu vaccines must be obtained from the MnVFC program when available. Availability of annual seasonal flu vaccine and distribution timing varies. Up-to-date information is available through MDH: [Immunization Information for Health Care Providers](#).

Immunization and Vaccine Benefits Codes

- [Immunization and Vaccine Benefits Codes for Children](#)
- [Immunization and Vaccine Benefits Codes for Adults](#)

Vaccine Counseling

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, MHCP covers vaccine counseling. Providers may counsel for COVID-19 vaccinations and standard vaccines. Counseling may be provided both in-person and via telehealth. Providers billing for vaccine counseling services must have the ability to administer the vaccine for which they are counseling. Providers cannot bill for vaccine counseling separately if the counseling is a required component of another service provided in the same visit.

Noncovered Services

MHCP does not cover the following services:

- Reimbursement for vaccines available from the MnVFC program
- Reimbursement for vaccines is not available under [Individual Education Program \(IEP\) services](#)
- Immunizations administered concurrently with services for the treatment of emergency medical conditions

Members enrolled in the following MHCP programs are not eligible for vaccination services:

- AC- Alternative Care Program
- HH- HIV/AIDS
- EH- Emergency Medical Assistance
- FPMN- Family Planning Program

Billing

The [MHCP fee schedule](#) is available to verify reimbursement rates.

Billing for Vaccine Counseling

HCPCS Code	Vaccine Counseling Description	Modifiers
G0310	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional when the vaccine is not administered on the same date of service, 5 to 15 minutes time. (This code is used for Medicaid billing purposes.)	
G0311	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional when the vaccine is not administered on the same date of service, 16-30 minutes time. (This code is used for Medicaid billing purposes.)	
G0312	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional when the vaccine is not administered on the same date of service for ages under 21, 5 to 15 minutes time. (This code is used for Medicaid billing purposes.)	
G0313	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional when the vaccine is not	

	administered on the same date of service for ages under 21, 16-30 minutes time. (This code is used for Medicaid billing purposes.)	
G0314	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19 vaccines, ages under 21, 16-30 minutes time. (This code is used for the Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit (EPSDT).	Use modifier CR when counseling specifically for COVID-19.
G0315	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19 vaccines, ages under 21, 5-15 minutes time. (This code is used for the Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit (EPSDT).	Use modifier CR when counseling specifically for COVID-19.

Bill only one counseling session for each member per day, but there is no limit to the number of times counseling may be provided to an individual.

Billing for Vaccines

Submit all claims with a vaccine code and a vaccine administration code, otherwise it will deny. Providers can also bill office visits when administering vaccinations if the visit was not solely to administer vaccines.

Billing for Child Vaccines

Some children's vaccines and toxoids are not available through the MnVFC program. Providers should follow **Billing for Adult Vaccines** protocol for these vaccines.

For vaccines obtained through the MnVFC Program:

The MnVFC program caps the administration fee you may charge at \$21.22 per dose (not per vaccine antigen). See [Immunization Billing Guidance for MnVFC](#) for more information.

Refer to the following when billing for vaccines obtained through MnVFC:

- Use the 837P or 837I MN-ITS transaction.
- Enter the appropriate CPT vaccine code with the SL modifier and a \$0 charge.
- Enter the appropriate vaccine administration code (from the following table) on the same claim.
- Enter the administration charge (no more than \$21.22 per dose) for administering the vaccine.

CPT Code	Vaccine Administration Description	Use With
90460	Immunization administration via any route with counseling by physician or other qualified health care professional; first or only component of each vaccine or toxoid administered	Use 90461 for each additional vaccine or toxoid component (must be used together with code 90460 if two or more vaccines administered)

Billing for Adult Vaccines

Bill for adult vaccines according to the following:

- Use the 837P or 837I MN-ITS transaction.
- Enter the appropriate vaccine code and vaccine administration code on the same claim (from the following table).
- Do not enter modifier SL with the vaccine code.
- Enter the usual and customary vaccine charge and the administration charge for administering the vaccine.

CPT Code	Vaccine Administration Description	Use With
90471	Percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, or intramuscular injections- 1 single or combination vaccine or toxoid	Use 90472 for each additional vaccine or toxoid, single or combination (must be used together with code 90471 if two or more vaccines administered) Do not use with 90473
90473	Intranasal or oral immunization administration- 1 single or combination vaccine or toxoid	Use 90474 for each additional vaccine or toxoid, single or combination (must be used together with code 90473 if two or more vaccines administered) Do not use with 90471
G0008	Administration of Influenza vaccine	Bill with: 90630, 90653, 90654, 90655, 90656, 90657, 90658, 90672, 60973, 90674, 90682, 90685, 90686, 90687, 90688, Q2033, Q2034, Q2035, Q2036, Q2037, Q2038, Q2039 Use with 90472 or 90474
G0009	Administration of Pneumococcal vaccine	Bill with: 90669, 90670, 90732 Use with 90472 or 90474
G0010	Administration of Hepatitis B vaccine	Bill with: 90740, 90744, 90746, 90747 Use with 90472 or 90474

Payments are based on:

- The base rate for vaccine administration is the lower of the provider's submitted charge or the resource based relative value scale (RBRVS) rate
- Medicare's average sale price (ASP) plus six percent. The paid amount is not to exceed the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Minnesota maximum vaccine administration fee or
- The wholesale acquisition cost if Medicare has not established an ASP

Legal References

[Minnesota Statutes, 150A.055](#) (Administration of Influenza Immunizations)

[Minnesota Statutes, 151.01](#), subdivision 27 (Practice of pharmacy- allows administration of flu vaccines to children)

[Minnesota Statutes, 256B.0625](#), subdivisions 39 and 60 (Covered Services - Childhood immunizations; Community paramedic services)