

COVID-19 Vaccine and Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Billing

Coding & Billing

What BIN/PCN do I use for Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) COVID-19 vaccine claims?

Payer	BIN	PCN
Uninsured (HRSA)	004766	COM 95964

What NDC should I send in the claim since the vaccine is free?

Pharmacies should send the NDC for the vaccine itself. Change Healthcare will map the vaccine NDC to the appropriate administration fee CPT code based on the manufacturer and dose (initial or subsequent).

How do I indicate first dose versus subsequent dose in the claim?

MedRx is following NCPDP's guidance which is to indicate first and subsequent doses of the COVID-19 vaccine by sending the following values in the Submission Clarification Code field (420-DK).

- 02 = first dose
- 06 = subsequent dose

How do I price the claim since the vaccine is free?

MedRx will expect the cost of the administration fee to be submitted in the Usual & Customary field (426-DQ).

NCPDP provided the following guidance on pricing fields when submitting claims for zero-cost vaccines:

- Incentive Amount Submitted (438-E3) should be submitted to identify the pharmacy is seeking reimbursement for the administration of the product
- Ingredient Cost Submitted (409-D9) value of \$0.00 or \$0.01
- Gross Amount Due (430-DU) value should be submitted to represent the Incentive Amount Submitted for the vaccine administration fee

Will I be required to send new or special data in the claim?

No. NCPDP offered guidance on specific claim fields for COVID-19 vaccines, but these data elements are either typical or are not required for medical billing.

- Basis of Cost Determination (423-DN) value "15" (e.g., Free product or no associated cost)
- Professional Service Code (440-E5) value of "MA" (Medication Administered)
- Prescription/Service Ref. Number Qualifier (455-EM) of "1" (Rx Billing)
- Product/Service ID Qualifier (436/E1) – usually "03" for NDC
- Product/Service ID (407-D7) containing the NDC of the vaccine or other product that was administered and obtained at zero cost
- Quantity Dispensed (442-E7) should be submitted with the value that represents the quantity of drug product administered. MedRx will convert to the appropriate medical quantity.

What ICD-10 code should be used on the claim?

As of this writing, no formal guidance has been issued regarding diagnosis codes. Change Healthcare will continue to auto-apply general vaccine administration diagnosis codes like we do for influenza and pneumococcal claims.

What Place of Service (POS) Codes should be used on the claim?

As of this writing, no formal guidance has been issued regarding patient location codes. Change Healthcare will continue to auto-apply location codes like we do for influenza and pneumococcal claims.

What are the current medical billing codes for the COVID-19 vaccine and associated administration fees?

The link below is to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) coding resource for COVID-19 vaccines. These codes have been widely adopted among commercial payers as well.

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/medicare-part-b-drug-average-salesprice/covid-19-vaccines-and-monoclonal-antibodies>*

*Monoclonal-antibodies are not currently billable under the MedRx HRSA plan.

How soon must the COVID-19 vaccination encounter be reported?

Providers must record the administration of the vaccine to patients in their own systems within 24 hours, and to public health data systems as soon as practical, and within 72 hours.

Vaccine Reimbursement

How much will the vaccine cost patients?

The initial supply of COVID-19 vaccines will be federally purchased. Doses purchased by the U.S. government will be given to the population at no cost.

To receive free supplies of the COVID-19 vaccine(s), pharmacies, retail clinics, providers, and any other site of care receiving and administering COVID-19 vaccines must sign an agreement with the U.S. government.

All providers must vaccinate individuals regardless of whether they have health insurance coverage or what type of coverage they have, and they are prohibited from balance billing or otherwise charging vaccine recipients.

How much will I be reimbursed for the vaccine?

Providers will not be reimbursed for federally purchased vaccines, but they may be reimbursed for an administration fee.

How much will I be reimbursed for the administration fee?

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) payment rates for COVID-19 vaccine admin fees will be based on current year Medicare fee schedule rates except where otherwise noted by HRSA.

Medicare Part B payment rates for COVID-19 vaccine admin fees are based on dose and will be geographically adjusted:

- Single Dose: \$28.39
- Series of 2 or more doses: initial dose(s) \$16.94 and \$28.39 for final dose in the series.

How do I track reimbursement for the HRSA plan?

The only option to review payment is to log into the Optum portal under the pharmacy's Optum account. Please visit <https://coviduninsuredclaim.linkhealth.com/> for more information.

HRSA Patient IDs

I submitted a claim to MedRx before getting a HRSA ID for an uninsured patient. What should I do?

Claims submitted to HRSA with invalid patient IDs will be front ended by the payer and not show up in HRSA's database of claims.

For known patient ID errors you must reverse the claim and resubmit it with the correct patient ID.

Try to reverse the claim in MedRx.

- *If successful*, the claim reversal will be accepted, then you can update the patient ID. The claim will be resubmitted to the payer.
- *If not successful* you will get an error such as "Claim has entered billing cycle". In this case call the MedRx Customer Support team at 866.379.6389.

Is there an alternative to submitting a COVID-19 Vaccine claim to MedRx before a patient HRSA ID is issued?

It may take up to 24 hours to receive a HRSA ID for a patient from the Optum site and so you might be outside the 24-hour reporting requirement window when submitting the claim to CHC.

Some pharmacies elect to process the claim as a CASH claim then when the HRSA ID is received for that patient they reverse the claim and bill it with the proper patient HRSA ID to CHC.

What information should I collect from the patient to get a HRSA patient ID?

MedRx does not validate HRSA patient IDs. For details on what information to collect from the patient in order to receive a temporary HRSA ID for them please see the following HRSA resource links.

<https://www.hrsa.gov/opa/registration/index.html>

<https://www.hrsa.gov/opa/COVID-19-resources>

<https://www.hrsa.gov/coviduninsuredclaim>

EDI

Is there Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) paperwork for this plan?

No, there is no EDI paperwork for this plan. There is no 835 (aka electronic remittance data (ERA)) for this plan. Change Healthcare will not know if you get paid for these claims.

It is the pharmacy's responsibility to go to the Optum website in order to reconcile claims! Make sure you have a resource in place to manage this task.

HRSA registration and FAQ links

What are the registration requirements with HRSA?

MedRx requires each pharmacy billing HRSA to be registered fully with HRSA before you start billing claims for uninsured patients. **YOU RISK NOT GETTING PAID WITHOUT PROPER REGISTRATION.**

MedRx will not hold HRSA claims. There is very little delay between the pharmacy submitting claims and MedRx submitting claims to the payer.

Please review the Optum HRSA web links below for additional information.

<https://www.hrsa.gov/opa/registration/index.html>

<https://www.hrsa.gov/opa/COVID-19-resources>

<https://www.hrsa.gov/coviduninsuredclaim>