

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network are proactively planning for what needs to be done once COVID-19 vaccines are authorized and available. Here's what you need to know about the COVID-19 vaccines.

## Priorities for vaccination

The first COVID-19 vaccines could be released in December. Per the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, they will be distributed in phases beginning with health care personnel and expanding to eventually include the general population. Since these phases are subject to change, please see the *Priority Groups* section of the [MDHHS COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Providers](#)\*\* document for the latest information.

Additional information can be found in *Section 4: Critical Populations* of the [COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Operational Guidance for Jurisdictions Playbook](#)\*\*.

## Available vaccines and timing of administration

Two vaccines, manufactured by Pfizer and Moderna, are currently seeking emergency use authorization from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Both of these vaccines will require two doses to be delivered a few weeks apart. It's crucial to follow the specified intervals by the manufacturer. More specific information can be found in the *Vaccine Administration* section of the [MDHHS COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Providers](#)\*\* document.

## Distribution of vaccines

Providers need to be enrolled with the State of Michigan to administer the vaccines. MDHHS has sent out enrollment information to providers. Providers can also find information in the *Enrollment* section of the MDHHS [COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Guidance & Educational Resources](#)\*\* page.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is partnering with CVS and Walgreens to assist in administration of the vaccine to long term care facilities, skilled nursing facilities and adult living facilities. Vaccines will be distributed through normal vaccine distribution mechanisms directly to enrolled providers in appropriate phases.

## Vaccine coverage

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network will waive all copays, deductibles and coinsurance for administration of COVID-19 vaccines during the government's multi-phased approach to vaccine distribution.

**Commercial products:** Blue Cross and BCN will cover vaccine administration with \$0 member cost share for all commercial plans.

**Medicare Advantage products:** Medicare will pay directly for both the vaccine and its administration for Medicare Advantage beneficiaries with no cost-sharing in 2020 and 2021. Coverage will begin after a vaccine receives an emergency use authorization from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

## COVID-19 vaccine billing

The CPT Editorial Panel has worked with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to create new vaccine administration codes that are both distinct to each COVID-19 vaccine and the specific dose in the required schedule. These codes can be used by providers administering the vaccines once they receive FDA emergency use authorization. Please see the [COVID-19 Vaccines and Monoclonal Antibodies\\*\\*](#) site for the current list of vaccines and their corresponding billing codes and payment allowances for Medicare. For long, medium and short CPT code descriptors, please see the American Medical Association's [COVID-19 CPT vaccine and immunization codes\\*\\*](#) page.

Once authorized, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network will reimburse providers for administering the COVID-19 vaccines to our commercial members using these codes:

- \*0001A
- \*0002A
- \*0011A
- \*0012A

Providers should not bill for the cost of the vaccine for any free, government-provided vaccine products, but may bill vaccine administration costs for members with commercial coverage.

### **COVID-19 vaccines administered in a physician office or urgent care center**

If a member visits a physician's office or urgent care center to only receive the vaccine, do not bill for an office visit.

### **How to bill for the COVID-19 vaccine shots for Medicare members**

See the CMS [Enrollment for Administering COVID-19 Vaccine Shots\\*\\*](#) page.

## Reporting COVID-19 vaccine administration

COVID-19 vaccination providers must report their vaccine inventory daily, document administration in their medical record systems within 24 hours of administration, and use their best efforts to report administration data to the relevant system for the jurisdiction as soon as practicable and no later than 72 hours after administration. Michigan providers should use the Michigan Care Improvement Registry. Read more on the CDC [COVID-19 Vaccination Provider Support\\*\\*](#) page.

### **For your patients**

In addition, you must also provide:

- An Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) fact sheet or Vaccine Information Statement (VIS), as applicable, to each vaccine recipient/parent/legal guardian prior to vaccination. These will be available on the FDA and CDC websites.
- A COVID-19 vaccination record card to each vaccine recipient/parent/legal guardian.

Please see the *Patient Education & Adverse Event Reporting* section of the [MDHHS COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Providers](#)\*\* document for details.

## Where to find more information

- From the CDC:
  - [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\): Vaccines](#)\*\*
  - [COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Playbook for Jurisdiction Operations](#)\*\*
  - [COVID-19 Vaccination Training and Educational Materials](#)\*\*
  - [COVID-19 Vaccination Training Programs and Reference Materials for Healthcare Professionals](#)\*\*
  - [Immunization Education & Training](#)\*\*
- [CMS COVID-19](#)\*\*
- From the MDHHS:
  - [COVID-19 Vaccine](#)\*\* (then click *Provider Guidance & Education*)
  - [COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Providers](#)\*\*
  - [COVID-19 Vaccination Plan](#)\*\*
- [HHS Fact Sheet: Explaining Operation Warp Speed](#)\*\*

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