

Affordable Care Act (ACA) Coverage

Health insurers and non-grandfathered group plans must cover preventive services, including immunizations recommended by the ACIP, without cost-sharing, such as copays and deductibles (non-Medicare plans).

Vaccines for Children Program (VFC)

VFC helps provide vaccines to children whose parents or guardians may not be able to afford them. A child is eligible for the VFC Program if he or she is younger than 19 years of age and is one of the following:

- Medicaid-eligible
- Uninsured
- Underinsured (Child has health insurance; but doesn't cover vaccines, or doesn't cover certain vaccines, or covers vaccines but has a fixed dollar limit or cap for vaccines)
- American Indian or Alaska Native

Note: Children whose health insurance covers the cost of vaccinations are not eligible for VFC vaccines.

2018 ACIP Recommended Vaccines for Adults

- Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Herpes zoster (shingles)
- Human papillomavirus (HPV)
- Influenza
- Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)
- Meningococcal
- Pneumococcal
- Varicella (chickenpox)

2018 ACIP Recommended Vaccines for Children

- Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis
- Haemophilus Influenzae Type B
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Human papillomavirus (HPV)
- Inactivated poliovirus
- Influenza
- Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)
- Meningococcal
- Pneumococcal
- Rotavirus
- Varicella (chickenpox)

Resources:

CDC website: www.cdc.gov
ACA information: www.healthcare.gov,
www.hhs.gov, www.vaccines.gov
Medicare: www.cms.gov

Vaccine Coverage: Understanding the Basics for Health Care Providers



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Insurance Coverage

- Coverage depends on the patient's insurance
- Coverage and cost will differ by insurance plan/Part D plan
- Medicare and the Affordable Care Act provide guidance for vaccine coverage
- Work with pharmacist to determine coverage of a vaccine
- If patient is not able to afford vaccine, or has no insurance coverage, contact the patient's county health department
- **Best advice is to have patient check with their insurance plan for coverage prior to getting the vaccine**

Medicare Coverage

- Vaccine coverage for Medicare members depends on the vaccine, and the reason for needing the vaccine
- Vaccines are covered by either Part B or Part D
- Generally, the best benefit for Part D-covered vaccines is at a network pharmacy that can administer vaccines
- Copays/Coinsurance may apply for Part D vaccines
- Part D vaccine coverage will vary by plan
- If patient does not have a Part D benefit, there is no coverage for Part D vaccines

Medicare Part B

Vaccines (except influenza, pneumococcal, and hepatitis B (high risk)) are excluded from Part B unless they are directly related to the *treatment of an injury or direct exposure* to a disease or condition. Medicare Part B covers vaccines Medicare patients need. Part B covered vaccines:

- Influenza vaccine
- Pneumococcal vaccine
- Hepatitis B vaccine (*moderate to high risk*)
- Other vaccines when directly related to the treatment of an injury or direct exposure to a disease or condition, such as:
 - Antivenom Sera
 - Diphtheria/Tetanus vaccine
 - Rabies virus vaccine

Medicare Part D

Medicare Part D covers all currently available vaccines that are reasonable and necessary for the prevention of illness, identified on the plan's Part D formulary. Part D vaccine coverage will vary by Part D plan. Copays or coinsurance may apply for Part D vaccines. If a patient does not have Part D coverage, there is no coverage for Part D covered vaccines. Part D covered vaccines include:

- BCG vaccine
- Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis
- Haemophilus Influenzae Type B Conjugate vaccine (HIB)
- Hepatitis A vaccine
- Hepatitis B vaccine (*low risk*)
- Herpes zoster vaccine (shingles)
- Human Papillomavirus vaccine (HPV)
- Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)
- Meningococcal vaccines
- Poliovirus vaccine
- Rabies vaccine
- Rotavirus
- Typhoid vaccine
- Varicella Zoster Vaccine Live
- Yellow Fever vaccine