

Apple Health (Medicaid) Immunization Reimbursement Listening Session

Virtual Meeting

October 20, 2023; updated October 27, 2023

Many recent changes in payment of immunizations

- ▶ **COVID vaccine** moving from federal purchase to commercialization
- ▶ New immunizations for **RSV**
- ▶ **Inflation Reduction Act** requirements for coverage of ACIP recommended vaccines including travel vaccines
- ▶ Usual **flu season** updates
- ▶ **Shifts** in where individuals seek immunizations, providers are able to administer them, and supply is available

Overview of Apple Health Immunization Reimbursement

- ▶ Apple Health **covers all immunizations** on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) **Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) Recommended Immunization Schedule** for adults and children
- ▶ Immunizations are made available to **Apple Health clients ages 18 and younger** at no cost from the Department of Health (DOH) through the **Childhood Vaccine Program** (which administers the state VFC program) in conjunction with the Washington Vaccine Association. For this population:
 - ▶ Apple Health reimburses clinics and hospitals **only for the administration* of the immunizations** and not for the immunizations themselves
 - ▶ Apple Health generally **does not reimburse for immunization products administered outside of the VFC program****; pharmacies in WA, for the most part, are not enrolled in VFC

* Clinics are reimbursed for administrative costs for VFC rather than an administration fee at this time

**For immunizations that are VFC-eligible

NOTES: For more information on the VFC program, see the VFC webpage. Immunizations covered by the program are listed in the Professional Administered Drug Fee Schedule.

Overview of Apple Health Immunization Coverage

Population	Setting	Administration covered?	Product covered?
0 – 18	Pharmacies	No, except for COVID	No, except for COVID
0 – 18	Clinics	Yes*	Yes, through VFC (-SL modifier)
0 – 18	Hospitals**	Yes	Yes, through VFC (-SL modifier)
19 +	Pharmacies	Yes***	Yes****
19 +	Clinics	Yes	Yes
19 +	Hospitals	Yes	Yes

NOTE: *Clinics are reimbursed for administrative costs for VFC rather than an administration fee at this time

**Immunizations administered during an inpatient episode of care are not separately reimbursed outside of the DRG, where applicable

***Apple Health FFS only reimburses for administration in pharmacies when billed as a medical claim; MCOs reimburse if billed on Rx/medical claim

****Currently, only influenza, shingles, pneumonia, RSV, and COVID-19 vaccines are allowed in pharmacies for adults. Network restrictions for MCOs may apply except for COVID until September 2024

Nirsevimab reimbursement

- ▶ Nirsevimab is administered to:
 - ▶ Newborns and infants once during their first RSV season, and
 - ▶ Again in the second RSV season to children up to 19 months of age who remain vulnerable to severe RSV disease.
- ▶ **Product Codes** (Report with **-SL modifier** to indicate state-supplied product)
 - ▶ **90380**: Respiratory syncytial virus, monoclonal antibody, seasonal dose; 0.5 mL dosage, for intramuscular use
 - ▶ **90381**: Respiratory syncytial virus, monoclonal antibody, seasonal dose; 1 mL dosage, for intramuscular use
 - ▶ Please note, this may be different than product code reporting guidance from the WVA for commercial clients
- ▶ **Administration Code**
 - ▶ **96380** Administration of respiratory syncytial virus, monoclonal antibody, seasonal dose by intramuscular injection, with counseling by physician or other qualified health care professional
 - ▶ **96381** Administration of respiratory syncytial virus, monoclonal antibody, seasonal dose by intramuscular injection without counseling by physician or other qualified health care professional
 - ▶ Do not report immunization administration codes 90460–90461 or 90471–90472 for the injection of nirsevimab
- ▶ **Pharmacies**: Not covered for kids

RSV adult vaccine reimbursement

- ▶ Vaccines for active immunization for prevention of lower respiratory tract disease caused by RSV in:
 - ▶ Pregnant individuals at 32 through 36 weeks (Abrysvo)
 - ▶ Individuals age 60 and older (Arexvy and Abrysvo)
- ▶ **Product Codes**
 - ▶ **90678**: Respiratory syncytial virus vaccine, preF, subunit, bivalent, for intramuscular use (**Abrysvo**)
 - ▶ For individuals under 19, report with **-SL modifier** to indicate state-supplied product
 - ▶ **90679**: Respiratory syncytial virus vaccine, preF, recombinant, subunit, adjuvanted, for intramuscular use (**Arexvy**)
- ▶ **Administration Codes**
 - ▶ **90471** if only one vaccine is injected
 - ▶ **90472** for each additional vaccine injected at the visit
 - ▶ If administered for individuals under 19 as part of VFC, please use VFC-specific billing methodology
- ▶ **Pharmacies**: RSV vaccine covered in pharmacies for clients 19+

COVID vaccine reimbursement

- ▶ Vaccines for active immunization for prevention of COVID-19
- ▶ **Product Codes** (For individuals under 19, report with **-SL modifier** to indicate state-supplied product)
 - ▶ **91318**: SARSCOV2 VACC 3MCG/0.2ML TRIS-SUCROSE IM USE (**Pfizer**)
 - ▶ **91319**: SARSCOV2 VACC 10MCG/0.2ML TRIS-SUCROSE IM USE (**Pfizer**)
 - ▶ **91320**: SARSCOV2 VACC 30MCG/0.3ML TRIS-SUCROSE IM USE (**Pfizer**)
 - ▶ **91321**: SARSCOV2 VACCINE 25 MCG/0.25 ML FOR IM USE (**Moderna**)
 - ▶ **91322**: SARSCOV2 VACCINE 50 MCG/0.5 ML FOR IM USE (**Moderna**)
 - ▶ **91304**: SARSCOV2 VACC SAPONIN-BSD ADJT 5MCG/0.5ML IM USE (**Novavax**)
- ▶ **Administration Codes**
 - ▶ **90480**: IMM ADMN SARSCOV2 VACCINE SINGLE DOSE (**for all ages**)
 - ▶ **M0201**: Covid-19 vaccine home admin
 - ▶ Do not report immunization administration codes 90460–90461 or 90471–90472 for the injection of COVID vaccine
- ▶ **Additional Notes**
 - ▶ For MCOs, **out of network** COVID-19 vaccines should be covered until September 2024
 - ▶ Covered in **pharmacies for adults and children***: pharmacists prescribing and billing for this service must bill on a HIPAA 837 transaction using the billing taxonomy of 193200000X

*COVID vaccines for clients under 19 are covered in pharmacies until September 2024
REFERENCE: [apple-health-covid-vaccine-policy-20231011.pdf \(wa.gov\)](#)

Questions/issues

- ▶ Contact the client's managed care organization directly if MCO denials or issues arise
- ▶ For Apple Health FFS clients:
 - ▶ Questions about rates: professionalrates@hca.wa.gov
 - ▶ Questions about claims/denials:
 - ▶ Contact HCA customer service 1-800-562-3022 (choose "provider services") or,
 - ▶ [Contact HCA | Washington State Health Care Authority](#)
 - ▶ Questions about pharmacy:
 - ▶ applehealthpharmacypolicy@hca.wa.gov
 - ▶ Questions about clinical policy:
 - ▶ HCAAppleHealthClinicalPolicy@hca.wa.gov

Discussion
