



Colorado Medicaid Benefit Coverage Standard

IMMUNIZATION SERVICES

Brief Coverage Statement

The Colorado Medicaid Immunization Benefit works to promote and facilitate the prevention of vaccine-preventable diseases and maintains an inter-agency agreement with the Colorado Department of Health and Environment (CDPHE) to maximize immunization recommendations by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service.

The vaccine recommendations for the State of Colorado based on ACIP can be found at the following website: http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/Immunization/ped_sched.pdf.

In collaboration with CDPHE, Colorado Medicaid provides vaccines for clients ages 18 and under through a program called Vaccines for Children (VFC).

- VFC is a federally-funded and state-operated vaccine supply program administered by CDPHE for children, ages 18 and under, that provides vaccines at no cost to children who might not otherwise be vaccinated because of inability to pay. Medicaid clients, ages 18 and under, are entitled to receive, at no cost, pediatric vaccines that are recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).
 - ACIP is a federal advisory committee that provides advice and guidance regarding the most appropriate vaccines for control of vaccine-preventable diseases; determines which vaccines should be recommended for administration to children, adolescents, and adults in the U.S; and approves which vaccines should be available through the VFC program. Under the VFC program, vaccines must be administered by VFC enrolled providers.
 - All vaccines recommended by ACIP for the VFC program are part of the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit package.
 - Providers must comply with the ACIP-established VFC schedule following publication of the ACIP Provisional Recommendations.
- Participation in the VFC program is strongly encouraged. Providers who wish to participate in this program must enroll with [CDPHE](#); in addition to enrolling in Colorado Medicaid

In collaboration with CDPHE, Colorado Medicaid provides data to the Colorado Immunization Information System (CIIS) is on a weekly basis for eligible clients enrolled in Medicaid, age 20 and under and immunization-related claims for clients age 20 and under at the date of service. Colorado Medicaid provides information to individuals, parents or guardians as required by C.R.S. § 25-4-2403 (7) on how the individual, parent or guardian can choose to have their (or



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their child's) immunization information excluded from CIIS. CIIS is a core component of the state's public health infrastructure and an important part of a larger strategy designed to support immunization of Colorado residents, ensure the prevention of vaccine-preventable disease, and reduce health care costs to individuals and the State. CIIS, the state's immunization registry, is a confidential, computerized, population-based system that collects and consolidates vaccination data for Coloradans of all ages and provides tools for designing and sustaining effective immunization strategies at the provider and program levels.

At the provider level, CIIS offers decision support at the point of clinical care to all participating providers by forecasting needed vaccinations, providing consolidated immunization histories no matter if a client has received immunizations from multiple providers, generating vaccination coverage reports, patient reminders, or recalls for patients overdue for vaccinations, thus serving as a centralized method to assure appropriate and timely vaccinations. Additionally, CIIS provides functionality to assist providers in managing their public and private vaccine inventory, allowing for a simple mechanism to facilitate vaccine management and ensure accountability with publically funded vaccines.

At the population level, CIIS provides aggregate data and generates vaccination coverage reports for surveillance, epidemiological investigations and program operations to inform public health activities with the goals of improving vaccination rates and reducing vaccine-preventable disease.

CIIS is a critical tool to facilitate the appropriate usage of limited public funds that support immunizing our most vulnerable populations by ensuring that Coloradans are appropriately immunized with the correct vaccinations on time. By participating in CIIS, healthcare professionals, parents and individuals can rest assured that their immunization records are safe and complete. Colorado Medicaid strongly encourages all providers to participate in the CIIS. For more information, please contact the CIIS Coordinator for your county:
<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/immunization/ciis/contact.html>.

Services Addressed in Other Benefit Coverage Standards

- None

Eligible Providers

Providers of vaccines must be enrolled with Colorado Medicaid. These can include, but are not limited to:

PRESCRIBING PROVIDER

- Physician
- Physician Assistant
- Advanced Practice Nurse



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- Nurse

RENDERING PROVIDER

- Physician
- Physician Assistant
- Advanced Practice Nurse
- Nurse
- Local Public Health Agencies
- Rural Health Centers (RHC)
- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC)
- Hospitals
- Clinics
- School-Based Health Center

Note:

- The prescribing provider is the practitioner who can order the service.
- The rendering provider is the practitioner who can render the service within the scope of their practice, certifications, and licensure.
 - The rendering provider may or may not be the rendering provider on the claim form, as not all provider types are able to enroll as a Colorado Medicaid provider.
- Pharmacists are **not** an eligible provider.

Eligible Places of Services

- Local Public Health Agencies
- Rural Health Centers (RHC)
- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC)
- Hospitals
- Clinics
- School-Based Health Centers
- Office
- For client's residing in a facility or receiving home health services:
 - Nursing Facilities – residents may receive immunizations if ordered by their physician. The skilled nursing component for immunization administration is included in the facility's rate. The vaccine itself may be billed directly to Colorado Medicaid by a Colorado Medicaid enrolled pharmacy. The pharmacy must bill the appropriate National Drug Code (NDC) for the individual vaccine dose under the client's Colorado Medicaid ID.
 - Home Health – a client confined to the home and receiving home health services may receive an immunization if the administration is part of a normally scheduled home health visit. A home health visit for the sole purpose of immunization administration is not a benefit. The pharmacy bills the vaccine as an individual



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dose under the client's Colorado Medicaid ID. The home health agency may not bill for the vaccine.

- Alternative Health Care Facilities (ACFs) / Group Homes – residents of an ACF may receive immunizations from their own physician. They may also receive vaccines under home health as stated above in the home health guideline.
- Colorado Medicaid does not pay for home health agencies, physicians, or other non-physician practitioners to go to nursing facilities, group homes, or residential treatment centers to administer immunizations (for example: flu vaccines) to groups of clients.

Note: Pharmacies are **not** an eligible place of service.

Eligible Clients

All Colorado Medicaid enrolled clients.

- Medicaid clients, ages 18 and under, are eligible to receive all immunizations available from the VFC program, at no cost.
- Clients, age 19 and older, enrolled in Colorado Medicaid can receive immunizations recommended by ACIP. Adults may have an office visit co-pay at the time of service.
- Clients enrolled in a Colorado Medicaid Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) or Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) must receive immunization services through the plan's providers, not Medicaid fee-for-service providers.
- Clients enrolled in the Primary Care Physician Program (PCPP) or Accountable Care Collaborative must access immunization services through their assigned primary care physician (PCP).

Covered Services and Limitations

Vaccines available from the VFC program and Colorado Medicaid are updated annually and listed in the Immunization Provider Billing Manual and can be accessed via the Department's Web site: Colorado.gov/hcpf.

Refer to the State of Colorado's Immunizations Web site for pediatric and adult immunization schedules, recommendations, and guidelines:

http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/Immunization/ped_sched.pdf.

The Immunization Provider Billing Manual provides a summary of benefits and billing guidelines for providers when administering vaccines to adults and children. For additional billing details refer to the Department's Web site for the current fee schedule.



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Prior Authorization Requirements

There are no prior authorization requirements.

Non-Covered Services and General Limitations

- Colorado Medicaid will not reimburse providers for vaccines available through the VFC program, which have been obtained from other suppliers.
- Colorado Medicaid does not pay for travel-related vaccines such as yellow fever and Hepatitis A, for adults or children.
- School District providers participating in the School Health Services (SHS) Program are limited to receiving reimbursement for only those services covered by the Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).
 - Vaccinations/Immunizations are not covered services that can bill under the IEP or IFSP.
- ACIP recommendations for clients 19 and over are subject to Colorado Medicaid rules.

References

Section 13631(g) of the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1993 (OBRA '93)
Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 1396s)
Section 25-4-905, CRS
Section 25-4-1705 (5)(e)(l) (H), C.R.S
Section 25-4-1705(7), C.R.S.
<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/ACIP-list.htm>
www.aafp.org

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Medicaid Director Signature

A handwritten date in black ink, '2/10/12', written over a horizontal line.

Date