

**INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 2287-MC-FFS-CVD**

**DATE:** November 8, 2021

**TO:** Iowa Medicaid Hospital, Physician MD, Physician DO, Podiatrist, Optometrist, Rural Health Clinic (RHC), Clinic, Community Mental Health Center (CMHC), Psychologist, Certified Nurse Midwife, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA), Clinical Social Worker, Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), Nurse Practitioner (NP), Behavioral Health, Physician Assistant Providers, Area Education Agency (AEA), Local Education Agency (LEA), Nursing Facilities/Skilled Nursing Facilities (NF/SNF), Pharmacies, Indian Health Service (IHS)

**APPLIES TO:** Managed Care (MC), Fee-for-Service (FFS)

**FROM:** Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

**RE:** COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine for Children Ages 5-11

**EFFECTIVE:** Immediately

The purpose of this informational letter (IL) is to inform and update providers regarding the authorization of COVID-19 vaccines for children ages 5-11. Information regarding billing and coding for administration fees is included below.

**COVID-19 Vaccines**

On October 29, 2021, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued the emergency use authorization (EUA) for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5-11.

Additionally, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s independent advisory committee, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), voted November 2, 2021, to recommend Pfizer's pediatric COVID-19 vaccine for those 5-11 years of age under EUA. The CDC director has also approved ACIP's recommendations. The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) has informed Iowa healthcare providers that they can begin administering the pediatric Pfizer vaccine to children 5-11 years of age once vaccine shipments have been received.

Effective immediately, the CDC recommends:

A two-dose, primary vaccination series for everyone ages 5 years and older, regardless of a history of symptomatic or asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection or seropositivity. Pediatric Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (2-doses, 10µg, IM) is recommended for children 5–11 years of age, under the EUA. COVID-19 vaccines may be administered without regard to timing of other vaccines. This includes simultaneous administration of COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines on the same day.

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Medicaid Billing/CPT Codes**

At this time, there is no charge for the vaccine as it is being acquired and distributed by the federal government. IME will pay for the administration of COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5-11 at the Medicare rate of \$40 per dose. Providers should bill for the administration of the vaccine using Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code 0071A for the first dose and 0072A for the second dose. Roster billing will not be available for providers.

Providers should submit Medicaid member claims to the member's managed care organization (MCO) or through the FFS program as applicable to the member. Claims for vaccine administration will be processed through the medical benefit and not pharmacy point of sale (POS). Providers must use the appropriate administration codes for the specific vaccine and specific dose being administered.

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Billing for Uninsured**

Providers administering the vaccine to those without health insurance or whose insurance does not provide coverage for the vaccine, can request reimbursement for the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine through the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) COVID-19 Claims Reimbursement to Health Care Providers and Facilities for Testing, Treatment, and Vaccine Administration for the Uninsured Fund. See <https://www.hrsa.gov/CovidUninsuredClaim<sup>1</sup>>.

**Please note:** The vaccine code must also appear on the claim. Use CPT code 91307 with the appropriate national drug code (NDC) to report the vaccine on the claim. No reimbursement will be paid for the vaccine while the vaccine is being provided by the federal government.

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<sup>1</sup> [COVID-19 Claims Reimbursement to Health Care Providers and Facilities for Testing, Treatment, and Vaccine Administration for the Uninsured | Official web site of the U.S. Health Resources & Services Administration \(hrsa.gov\)](https://www.hrsa.gov/CovidUninsuredClaim)