

Janet T. Mills  
Governor

Jeanne M. Lambrew, Ph.D.  
Commissioner



Maine Department of Health and Human Services  
Office of MaineCare Services - Pharmacy Unit  
11 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011  
Toll Free: (866) 796-2463; TTY: Dial 711 (Maine Relay)  
Fax: (207) 287-8601

**\*\*Important Billing Information for COVID-19 Vaccines\*\***

Dear Medicaid Provider,

Effective January 27, 2021, pharmacies may submit claims for reimbursement for COVID-19 vaccines and their administration retroactive to dates of service on or after January 1st, 2021. We will reimburse based on Medicare's regional rates for Maine, per our standard practice. The reimbursement rate will be set at 100% of the regional rate. This information can be found in the table below. Please note that MaineCare will not reimburse for vaccine administration costs included in other contracts or agreements.

**COVID-19 Vaccine Administration and Product Information Effective 1/1/2021 – Current**

<b>Vaccine Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)</b>	<b>Effective Dates</b>	<b>First Dose Rate</b>	<b>Second Dose Rate</b>
Pfizer	1/1/2021	\$15.87	\$26.21
Moderna	1/1/2021	\$15.87	\$26.21

Please refer to the most recent version of Section 6.2.1 of the **NCPDP Emergency Preparedness Guidance** (version 1.8) for examples and additional guidance on billing for reimbursement of a free product. In general, claims submitted for zero-cost vaccines should be submitted on a single B1/B3 billing transaction including the following data elements and values:

- Quantity Dispensed (**442-E7**) Moderna: NDC 80777027310 and 80777027399, value = 0.5 mL Pfizer: NDC 59267100001, 59267100002 and 59267100003, value= 0.3 mL
- Professional Service Code (**440-E5**) "MA" (Medication Administered)
- Submission Clarification Codes (**SCC, 420-DK**) First Dose=2, Second Dose=6
- Incentive Amount (administration fee, (**438-E3**) First Dose=\$15.87 Second Dose=\$26.21
- Basis of Cost (**423-DN**) Ingredient Cost (**409- D9**) "15" (free product or no associated cost) \$0.00 or \$0.01
- Gross Amount Due (**430-DU**) Include "Incentive Amount" submitted for the administration fee and zero cost of the vaccine

COVID-19 vaccines may require a single dose or a series of two doses to achieve expected efficacy. For a COVID-19 vaccine requiring a series of two doses, the initial dose administration rate will be \$15.87, and the second dose administration rate will be \$26.21. These rates recognize the costs involved in administering the vaccine, including the additional resources involved with required public health reporting, conducting important outreach and patient education, and spending additional time with patients answering any questions they may have about the vaccine.

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Pharmacy providers administering COVID-19 vaccinations should instruct members receiving vaccines that require two doses to do the following:

- Use the same Service Location for both vaccinations
- Receive the second dose on the date specified by the manufacturer’s product labeling

**Two-Dose Vaccines:** The Submission Clarification Code (420-DK) field should be used to differentiate which dose is being administered to allow proper reimbursement. This guidance applies regardless if the same provider or different providers administer the series of doses.

**Single-Dose Vaccines:** No Submission Clarification Code is required for a single-dose product, Incentive Amount=\$26.21.

Note: For vaccinations prior to 1/1/2021, MaineCare will reimburse at 100% of Medicare, which at the time the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, (CMS) had set national rates. The information can be found in the table below.

**COVID-19 Vaccine Administration and Product Information Effective 12/11/20 – 12/31/20**

Vaccine Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)	Effective Dates	First Dose Rate	Second Dose Rate
Pfizer	12/11/2020	\$16.94	\$28.39
Moderna	12/18/2020	\$16.94	\$28.39

We are working on creating another billing window with Change Healthcare and we will notify providers once that programming is complete for any vaccinations administered to MaineCare members between 12/11/2020 and 12/31/2020.

For questions, please contact the Change Healthcare Pharmacy Help Desk at 1-888-420-9711. MaineCare providers can also send inquiries via email to

**[PBA\\_helpdesk@changehealthcare.com](mailto:PBA_helpdesk@changehealthcare.com)**.

As a reminder, the COVID-19 vaccine is a covered benefit for all full MaineCare members, for members who are covered through MaineCare’s Special Benefits Waiver, and for members who are in the pregnancy presumptive eligibility category (also known as “pregnancy-related coverage”). The vaccine is available to these members at no cost to them.

Providers who administer a licensed or authorized COVID-19 vaccine to uninsured individuals or those enrolled in MaineCare with certain limited benefits (family planning services, family planning presumptive eligibility, emergency MaineCare, and prisoner inpatient) should request reimbursement through the federal Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA). For more information on the process and the availability of funds, please visit HRSA’s [website](#). For more guidance about vaccine coverage for uninsured individuals or those with limited benefits, please see CMS’ [website](#).