

IHCP *bulletin*

INDIANA HEALTH COVERAGE PROGRAMS BT202210 FEBRUARY 8, 2022

IHCP revises VFC program policy for pharmacies

To improve immunization access for Hoosiers, the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) and Indiana Health Coverage Programs (IHCP) have made changes to their Vaccines for Children (VFC) policy to allow pharmacies the ability to enroll as VFC program providers.

Effective March 10, 2022, VFC enrolled pharmacies may process VFC pharmacy claims through the IHCP member's designated fee-for-service (FFS) or managed care delivery system plan. Pharmacies must enroll with the IDOH to become a participating VFC provider.

The VFC program is a federal program that provides vaccines at no cost to children who might not otherwise be vaccinated due to inability to pay. Children under 19 years of age who are enrolled in Medicaid are eligible to receive all vaccines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) through the VFC program.



Reimbursement information

VFC pharmacy providers will be reimbursed for the administration of a covered VFC vaccine by a qualified pharmacist, or pharmacist's designee if applicable, employed by the pharmacy provider.

The maximum allowable reimbursement for the administration of a VFC vaccine will be consistent with reimbursement for vaccines administered by medical providers, which is currently \$15.00 (includes intranasal and oral vaccines, as well as percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous and intramuscular injections). If systematically permitted, the pharmacy should submit a \$15.00 charge in the usual-and-customary field. If the update to this field is not permitted, the pharmacy should submit its usual-and-customary charge for the service. Vaccine products available through the VFC program will be reimbursed at \$0.00. Ingredient cost may be submitted as either \$0.00 or \$0.01.

Pharmacy claims for this service must be submitted through the standard point-of-sale (POS) system or via paper pharmacy claim.

All prescriptions dispensed for a pediatric member via the VFC program should have documentation on the prescription or within the member's pharmacy record denoting administration via the VFC program.

Vaccinations for IHCP members who are dually eligible for Medicaid and Medicare must be billed to Medicare.

Pharmacy requirements

[Indiana Code \(IC\) 25-26-13-31.2](#) and all other applicable state and federal laws and regulations, and applicable Indiana State Board of Pharmacy regulations, must be followed regarding administration of vaccines. The administering pharmacy staff member must be appropriately certified to administer vaccines. Pharmacy providers must participate in the IDOH's Children and Hoosier Immunization Registry Program (CHIRP). Pharmacy providers are required to notify (via telephone, fax, email or mail) a member's primary medical provider (PMP) of each administration of a vaccine to the member. If the PMP is not known, the pharmacy provider must obtain, from the member, the name of a PMP and inform the PMP that the vaccine has been administered by the pharmacy provider. Documentation of vaccine administration, PMP notification and CHIRP registry must be retained at the pharmacy and is subject to audit.



This coverage will be reflected in the next regular update to the [Injections Vaccines and Other Physician Administered Drugs](#) and [Pharmacy Services](#) provider reference modules, available at in.gov/medicaid/providers. For more information about the VFC program, contact the Indiana State Department of Health Immunization Program at 317-233-7704 or 800-701-0704. More information can be found on the [VFC Providers](#) page at in.gov/health/immunization, including instructions for [new provider enrollment](#).

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