

IHCP *bulletin*

INDIANA HEALTH COVERAGE PROGRAMS BT202272 AUGUST 30, 2022

IHCP announces update to Novavax COVID-19 vaccine pharmacy claim reimbursement

The Indiana Health Coverage Programs (IHCP) recently announced reimbursement for the administration of the Novavax coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccine for members ages 18 and older in *IHCP Bulletin* [BT202267](#). On Aug. 19, 2022, Novavax [announced](#) that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) had expanded the [Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine, Adjuvanted Emergency Use Authorization \(EUA\)](#) to include a two-dose primary series for active immunization to prevent COVID-19 caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) in adolescents ages 12 through 17.

Effective immediately, for dates of service (DOS) on and after Aug. 19, 2022, the IHCP will reimburse IHCP-enrolled pharmacies for the administration of Novavax COVID-19 vaccine as a primary series to members ages 12 and older who have not completed a primary COVID-19 vaccination series. Corresponding updates to the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine procedure codes for the medical benefit are forthcoming.

As established in *IHCP Bulletins* [BT202102](#) and [BT202172](#), pharmacy providers are allowed to bill for vaccine administration. Vaccinations can be administered to all eligible IHCP members meeting vaccine FDA approved or EUA criteria, including age and dosing interval recommendations. Any additional requirements or limitations specified by the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) or Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) must also be met.



Pharmacy claim-processing instructions

As discussed in *IHCP Bulletins* [BT2020127](#), [BT202102](#), and [BT2021101](#), pharmacy claim reimbursement includes pharmacist-ordered vaccines administered by qualified pharmacists or pharmacist-supervised pharmacy interns and technicians.

Pharmacy providers must submit vaccine administration pharmacy claims using point-of-sale (POS) National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) codes as described in Table 1.

Table 1 – POS NCPDP codes and allowed amounts for Novavax COVID-19 vaccines for ages 12 and older

	Professional Service Code (440-E5)	Service Clarification Code (SCC, 420-DK)	Incentive Amount (Administration Fee, 438-E3)	Basis of Cost (423-DN)	Ingredient Cost (409-D9)
First Dose	MA	2	\$37.21	15	\$0.00 or \$0.01
Second Dose	MA	6	\$37.21	15	\$0.00 or \$0.01

Pharmacy claims for doses that do not correspond to the EUA or FDA labeling for that dose will deny displaying NCPDP reject code 76 – *Plan Limitation Exceeded* and will provide additional messaging pertaining to the age limits.

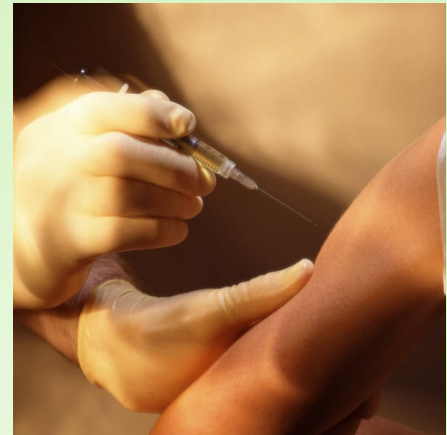
COVID-19 vaccines are to be supplied free of charge, without copay, to all IHCP members, including members in limited benefit categories, such as Emergency Services Only (ESO). COVID-19 vaccination claims for IHCP members who are dually eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid must be billed to the member's Medicare plan provider.

COVID-19 vaccination reimbursement is carved out of managed care benefits. Pharmacy claims for managed care and FFS members should be submitted to the FFS pharmacy benefit manager, OptumRx, as announced in [BT202172](#).

For more information

Please direct pharmacy-related questions about COVID-19 vaccinations or this bulletin to the OptumRx Clinical and Technical Help Desk by calling toll-free 855-577-6317. Questions regarding pharmacy benefits that are not carved out of the managed care delivery system for members in the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP), Hoosier Care Connect and Hoosier Healthwise should be referred to the managed care entity (MCE) with which the member is enrolled.

For information on nonpharmacy questions about COVID-19 vaccinations or this bulletin, contact Gainwell Customer Assistance at 800-457-4584.



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