



NYS Medicaid Billing Guidance

For NY Managed Medicaid Plans Processed by MedImpact

DATE: 4/29/2022 update

SUBJECT: MedImpact processing based on NY Medicaid Pharmacy Policy and Billing Guidance for COVID-19 Counseling of the unvaccinated.

Following are billing instructions for plans: **BIN:** 003585, **PCN:** ASPROD1, **GRP:** VNS03.

Effective: December 1, 2021, New York State (NYS) Medicaid fee-for-service (FFS), Medicaid Managed Care (MMC) Plans [including mainstream MMC Plans, Health and Recovery Plans (HARPs), and HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Special Needs Plans (SNPs)], provides reimbursement for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccination counseling to unvaccinated Medicaid members/enrollees to encourage the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Coverage Criteria: Providers may bill for COVID-19 vaccine counseling provided to Medicaid members:

- 1 as a stand-alone service when all the criteria specified in this guidance are met and documented
2. whether or not a COVID-19 vaccine is administered during the encounter.
3. using the Medicaid enrolled child's Client Identification Number (CIN) when counseling is provided to a parent, caregiver, or guardian for the benefit of the child, with or without the child present during the counseling session.
4. for up to four counseling visits per vaccine dose recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), when the member has not received and does not have an appointment to receive, the recommended dose, up to a total of 12 visits per member per year. Additional information regarding COVID-19 vaccines recommended by the CDC can be found on the CDC "Types of Vaccines Available" web page, located at:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines.html>

Qualified providers may provide up to four pre-decisional counseling visits for each dose recommended by the CDC, including booster doses, up to a total of twelve visits per year.

Members receiving counseling on an initial dose or subsequent dose, including boosters, must not have already received the dose and must not already have an appointment to receive the dose.

The NYS Medicaid program is designed to provide payment for medical care and services only after all other resources available for payment have been reviewed and used. If a Medicaid member has third-party insurance coverage, the benefits of those coverages must fully be used before billing the NYS Medicaid program. Providers should always ask Medicaid members if they have other or third-party coverage to ensure the proper coordination of benefits.

See documentation requirements continued on next page.



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Providers who already receive payments from another source for COVID-19 vaccination counseling (e.g., the New York City COVID-19 Vaccine and Counseling outreach program) are not eligible for reimbursement from Medicaid. Medicaid is the payor of the last resort; federal regulations require that all other available resources be used before Medicaid considers payment.

The COVID-19 vaccine counseling session must be documented in the medical or pharmacy record and must include the following:

1. confirming that the patient is not currently “up-to-date” with COVID-19 vaccine dosing, as recommended by the CDC per the CDC “Stay Up to Date with Your Vaccines” web page, located at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html>;
2. confirming vaccination status in the New York State Immunization Information System (NYSIIS), whenever possible;
3. confirming the patient does not already have an appointment scheduled to receive an initial/first dose;
4. confirming patient consent of the parent, guardian or caregiver (if appropriate) to receive the counseling;
5. the reasons expressed by the patient, parent, or caregiver for vaccine hesitancy;
6. strongly recommending the COVID-19 vaccination (unless medically contraindicated, in which case the counseling session is not billable);
7. counseling the patient, along with their parent, guardian, or caregiver (if appropriate) on the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines;
8. answering any questions that the patient or parent, guardian, or caregiver has regarding COVID-19 vaccination;
9. counseling the patient, along with their parent, guardian, or caregiver (if appropriate) for a minimum of eight minutes; and
10. arranging for vaccination or providing information on how the patient can get vaccinated for COVID-19.

Billing Directions: For billing of **COVID-19 Counseling of the unvaccinated** for a maximum of \$25.00, a pharmacy paper claim to MedImpact is required. Please use UCF – Universal Claim Form and send via email to VNS.UCF@MedImpact.com . Please allow 30 days for processing. Contact MedImpact at 800-788-2949 to submit a pharmacy paper claim or for any questions.

For more information: COVID-19 Vaccine Counseling Coverage- [Updated Coverage criteria for COVID-19 vaccine Counseling \(ny.gov\)](#). Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistance Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) COVID-19 Therapeutics Locator can be accessed here - <https://covid-19-therapeutics-locator-dhhs.hub.arcgis.com/>

<https://www.vnsnychoice.org/covid-19-information-and-resources/for-choice-providers/>