

ForwardHealth **UPDATE**

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COVID-19 VACCINE BILLING AND REIMBURSEMENT

For dates of service on and after December 11, 2020, ForwardHealth will begin coverage of administration of the COVID-19 vaccine to BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid members. Providers may submit claims to ForwardHealth for these dates of service beginning January 11, 2021.

This ForwardHealth Update offers policy information for covered COVID-19 vaccines, claims submission, member cost sharing, reporting requirements, and reimbursement.

Coverage

Effective for dates of service on and after December 11, 2020, ForwardHealth covers the following Current Procedural Terminology procedure codes for Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines.

PROCEDURE CODE	DESCRIPTION
91300	Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 30 mcg/0.3mL dosage, diluent reconstituted, for intramuscular use

AFFECTED PROGRAMS

BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid

TO

All Providers, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

QUICK LINKS

- [COVID-19: ForwardHealth News and Resources](#)
- [ForwardHealth Wisconsin COVID-19 Vaccine Information](#)
- [Forms](#)

The information provided in this ForwardHealth Update is published in accordance with Social Security Act §§ 1905(a)(13)(A) and (B).

PROCEDURE CODE	DESCRIPTION
0001A	Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 30 mcg/0.3mL dosage, diluent reconstituted; first dose
0002A	Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 30 mcg/0.3mL dosage, diluent reconstituted; second dose

Effective for dates of service on and after December 18, 2020, ForwardHealth covers the following Current Procedural Terminology procedure codes for Moderna COVID-19 vaccines.

PROCEDURE CODE	DESCRIPTION
91301	Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 100 mcg/0.5mL dosage, for intramuscular use
0011A	Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 100 mcg/0.5mL dosage; first dose
0012A	Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 100 mcg/0.5mL dosage; second dose

ForwardHealth will update these lists of allowable Current Procedural Terminology procedure codes for COVID-19 vaccines as more information becomes available.

Claims Submission

Unlike the ForwardHealth claims submission process for most other vaccines, providers are required to indicate the procedure code of the COVID-19 vaccine administered **as well as** the administration code on claims submitted for the COVID-19 vaccine.

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Providers may submit claims for vaccines via the following:

- 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form (02/12)
- 837 Health Care Claim: Professional transaction
- Direct Data Entry on the ForwardHealth Portal
- Provider Electronic Solutions claims submission software

BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid is usually the payer of last resort for any covered services. Providers should bill a member's primary insurance, when applicable, before submitting a claim to ForwardHealth. For more information, refer to the [Payer of Last Resort](#) topic (#253) in the ForwardHealth Online Handbook.

Pharmacy Providers

Pharmacy providers should bill ForwardHealth for the COVID-19 vaccine for BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid members.

Pharmacy providers should refer to [Alert 024](#), titled "ForwardHealth Billing Reminders When Submitting Claims for Vaccinations," for information on how to submit a vaccination claim to ForwardHealth.

Note: For the COVID-19 vaccine, pharmacy providers are required to indicate both the procedure code of the vaccine administered and the administration code on claims for vaccination services.

Medical Providers

Medical providers, such as physicians, clinics, and hospitals, should bill the BadgerCare Plus or SSI HMO for Medicaid members enrolled in an HMO. ForwardHealth should be billed for members who receive Medicaid fee-for-service.

Nursing Home Providers

Nursing homes may bill COVID-19 vaccine administration charges **separately from** the per diem nursing home rate on a professional claim form. Billing is appropriate for vaccines administered to nursing home residents who have Wisconsin Medicaid as their primary insurance when the vaccine is administered by nursing home staff and not part of the federal partnership with pharmacies to administer the COVID-19 vaccine to nursing home residents.

Member Cost Sharing

As a reminder, members should not be charged copays for any COVID-19-related care, including vaccination. Refer to the [Exemptions](#) topic (#231) of the Online Handbook for more information.

“Providers are required to indicate the procedure code of the COVID-19 vaccine administered as well as the administration code on claims submitted for the COVID-19 vaccine.”

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Provider Reporting Requirements

Providers are required to follow all state and federal reporting requirements when they administer a COVID-19 vaccine. These requirements include entering information into the Wisconsin Immunization Registry within 24 hours of the vaccine administration.

Providers are also required to provide a completed COVID-19 vaccination record card and an Emergency Use Authorization fact sheet or vaccine information statement to every member who receives a COVID-19 vaccination.

Reimbursement

ForwardHealth will only reimburse for vaccine administration while COVID-19 vaccines are provided by the federal government. ForwardHealth will update its reimbursement policy for the COVID-19 vaccine when it is no longer being provided through the federal government. Any change in coverage or reimbursement will be announced in a ForwardHealth communication.

ForwardHealth reimbursement rates for a COVID-19 vaccine requiring a series of two or more doses will be the following:

- \$16.94 for administration of the initial dose(s)
- \$28.39 for administration of the final dose in the series

ForwardHealth will reimburse \$28.39 for the administration of a single dose COVID-19 vaccine.

Providers are responsible for ensuring that individual members receive all required doses for the COVID-19 vaccine they are initially administered. Different COVID-19 vaccine products are not interchangeable. A vaccine recipient's second dose must be from the same manufacturer as their first dose. Second-dose reminders for vaccine recipients will be critical to ensure compliance with vaccine dosing intervals and achieve optimal vaccine effectiveness. COVID-19 vaccination providers should make every attempt to schedule a patient's second-dose appointment when they receive their first dose.

Information for Managed Care Plans

BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid SSI HMO plans are required to reimburse for the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine, unless a member receives the COVID-19 vaccine from a pharmacy provider. BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid

“Initially, supply of the COVID-19 vaccine will be limited and will be given to groups at high risk for exposure. The vaccination timeline depends on recommendations provided by the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee and the federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.”

RESOURCE
[Wisconsin Department of Health Services COVID-19 webpage](#)

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SSI HMO plans are required to cover COVID-19 administration for both in-network and out-of-network providers.

For More Information

For the latest information from ForwardHealth regarding COVID-19, refer to the [COVID-19 ForwardHealth Provider News and Resources webpage](#) on the Portal.

Documentation Retention

Providers are reminded that they must follow documentation retention requirements, per Wis. Admin. Code § [DHS 106.02\(9\)](#). Information about those requirements are explained in the following Online Handbook topics:

- [Financial Records](#) topic (#201)
- [Medical Records](#) topic (#202)
- [Preparation and Maintenance of Records](#) topic (#203)
- [Record Retention](#) topic (#204)
- [Availability of Records to Authorized Personnel](#) topic (#1640)

Providers are required to produce or submit documentation to ForwardHealth or both upon request. ForwardHealth may deny or recoup payment for services that fail to meet this requirement. Refusal to produce documentation may result in sanctions including, but not limited to, termination from the Medicaid program.

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The ForwardHealth Update is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers.

Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, SeniorCare, and Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program are administered by the Division of Medicaid Services within the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). The Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program and the Wisconsin Well Woman Program are administered by the Division of Public Health within DHS.

For questions, call Provider Services at 800-947-9627 or visit our website at www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/.