

ATTENTION: PHARMACISTS AS IMMUNIZERS

EXECUTIVE ORDER RESPONSE (REVISED 1-17-13)

CHANGE IN MEDICAID FEE FOR SERVICE BILLING FOR FLU VACCINE ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF SIX MONTHS AND 18 YEARS

On January 12, 2013, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo declared a Public Health Emergency for all of New York State in response to this year's increasingly severe flu season. The Governor issued an Executive Order which allows NYS certified pharmacists to administer flu vaccinations to patients between six months and 18 years of age. This Order suspends for the **next 30 days** the section of State Education Law that limits the authority of NYS certified pharmacists to administer immunizing agents only to individuals 18 years of age or older. Refer to: <http://www.governor.ny.gov/press/01122013Severe-Flu-Season>

The seasonal flu vaccine for individuals under the age of 19 is provided free of charge by the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. Therefore, Medicaid does not reimburse providers for the seasonal flu vaccine for individuals under the age of 19.

NYS certified pharmacists may secure flu vaccine to administer to Medicaid enrolled children and uninsured children through the Vaccine for Children Program (VFC). Pharmacies not already enrolled in VFC may enroll, or for those who are already enrolled, may reactivate their enrollment. For VFC enrollment information, go to: http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/vaccines_for_children.htm. The flu vaccine is provided free of charge by Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to the VFC and in turn to enrolled pharmacies.

NYS: For questions contact the New York State Vaccines for Children Program at nyvfc@health.state.ny.us or 1-800-543-7468.

NYC: For more information about the Vaccines for Children program or to enroll in the program, call 1-347-396-2405.

Vaccines for Children Program (VFC) - Vaccine Administration:

Billing Instructions for Administration Fee for Flu Vaccine Dispensed Through VFC for Medicaid Fee for Service during 30 day Executive Order beginning January 12, 2013:

- For administration of vaccines supplied by VFC, **including influenza and pneumococcal administration**, VFC enrolled providers are required to bill **vaccine administration** code **90460**.
- Providers **must continue to bill the specific vaccine code from the above chart with the "SL"** modifier on the claim (payment for "SL" will be \$0.00). If an administration code is billed without a vaccine code with "SL", the claim is denied.
- For reimbursement purposes, the administration of the components of a combination vaccine continues to be considered as one vaccine administration. A "1" should be inserted in the quantity field.
- More than one vaccine administration is reimbursable under 90460 on a single date of service. Reimbursement for administration is \$17.85 for any route of administration.

| Procedure Code | Procedure Description | Reimbursement for Administration |
|----------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 90460 | Immunization Administration through 18 Years of Age via Any Route of Administration with Counseling by Physician or Other Qualified Health Care Professional; First or Only Component of Each Vaccine or Toxoid Administered | \$17.85 |

- Consistent with Medicaid immunizations for practitioners, pharmacies bill the administration and cost of the vaccine using the following procedure codes. Please note that NDCs are not to be used for billing the vaccine product. Reimbursement for the product is made at no more than the actual acquisition cost to the pharmacy. No dispensing fee or enrollee co-payment applies. Pharmacies bill with a quantity of "1" and a day supply of "1".

| Procedure Code | Procedure Description |
|-----------------------|--|
| 90654 | Seasonal Influenza virus vaccine, preservative free, for intradermal use, ages 18 through 64 |
| 90655 | Seasonal Influenza virus vaccine, trivalent, preservative free, when administered to children 6 – 35 months of age, for intramuscular use |
| 90656 | Seasonal Influenza virus vaccine, trivalent, preservative free, when administered to individuals 3 years and older, for intramuscular use |
| 90657 | Seasonal Influenza virus vaccine, trivalent, when administered to children 6 – 35 months of age, for intramuscular use |
| 90658 | Seasonal Influenza virus vaccine, trivalent, when administered to individuals 3 years and older, for intramuscular use |
| 90660 | Seasonal Influenza, live for intranasal use |
| 90732 | Pneumococcal vaccine, for intramuscular use |
| 90471 | Immunization Administration (includes percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, or intramuscular injections); 1 vaccine (single or combination vaccine/toxoid)* |
| 90472 | Immunization Administration (includes percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, or intramuscular injections); each additional vaccine (single or combination vaccine/toxoid) (list separately in addition to code for primary procedure)* |
| 90473 | Immunization Administration (includes intranasal) |
| 90460 | Immunization Administration Through 18 Years of Age via Any Route of Administration, with Counseling by Physician or Other Qualified Health Care Professional; First or Only Component of Each Vaccine or Toxoid Administered (VFC) |

***NOTE:** For administration of **non-VFC** multiple vaccines on the same date effective 1/1/13, code 90471 is used for the first vaccine and 90472 for ANY other vaccines administered on that day. One line will be billed for 90472 indicating the additional number of vaccines administered (insert 1 or 2).

The Department will update pharmacies on the status of the Executive Order as information becomes available. Updates regarding Medicaid managed care plans, Family Health Plus and Child Health Plus will follow.

Questions: Medicaid Billing Assistance: CSC 1-800-343-9000 or Medicaid Pharmacy Policy: 1-518-486-3209.