



**ATTENTION: PHARMACISTS**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 176 EXPANDS ACCESS TO IMMUNIZE CHILDREN AGAINST  
SEASONAL INFLUENZA**

**CHANGE IN MEDICAID FEE FOR SERVICE BILLING FOR FLU VACCINE ADMINISTRATION FOR  
CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 2 YEARS AND 18 YEARS**

On January 25, 2018, 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 2 years and 18 years of age. This Order suspends, during the period that the disaster emergency remains in effect, 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.

Based on the above, administration of flu vaccines to Medicaid enrolled children between the ages of 2 years and 18 years by qualified pharmacists employed by, or under contract with, Medicaid enrolled pharmacies is reimbursable under NYS Medicaid for the duration of the Executive Order.

NYS certified pharmacists may secure flu vaccine to administer to Medicaid enrolled and uninsured children through the Vaccine for Children Program (VFC). Pharmacies not already enrolled in VFC are strongly encouraged to enroll to enable access to flu vaccine for both Medicaid and uninsured children. For VFC enrollment information, go to:

[https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/vaccines\\_for\\_children/](https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/vaccines_for_children/). The flu vaccine is provided free of charge by Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to the VFC and in turn to enrolled pharmacies. Pharmacies may bill for the administration. **Pharmacies enrolled in the VFC program must use procedure code 90460 for administration of a VFC vaccine, and reimbursement for such is \$17.85. The cost of the flu vaccine should not be billed to Medicaid when it is obtained through the VFC program.**

During the period the Executive Order remains in effect, pharmacies not enrolled in the VFC program may bill the acquisition cost of the vaccine and its administration. The procedure code for **administration of a non-VFC vaccine** is **90471** and reimbursement for such is \$13.23. Procedure codes for flu vaccines obtained outside the VFC program can be found on eMedNY at:

<https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/Pharmacy/index.aspx> (click on "OTC and Supply Fee Schedule").

Services must be provided and documented in accordance to NYS Department of Education laws and regulations. Visit <http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/pharm/pharmimmunizations.htm> for links to additional information, including the reporting of all immunizations administered to persons less than 19 years of age to the New York State Department of Health using the New York State Immunization Information System (NYSIIS).

Please note that **NDCs are not to be used** for billing the vaccine product. Reimbursement for the product will be made at no more than the actual acquisition cost to the pharmacy. No dispensing fee or enrollee co-payment applies. Pharmacies will bill with a quantity of "1" and a day supply of "1".

**Billing Instructions:** Providers must submit via NCPDP D.0, in the Claim Segment field 436-E1 (Product/Service ID Qualifier), a value of "09" (HCPCS), which qualifies the code submitted in field 407-D7 (Product/Service ID) as a Procedure code. In field 407-D7 (Product/Service ID), enter the Procedure code.