

Clover Health

NOTICE TO ALL CLOVER PROVIDERS: COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATE

March 15, 2021 Update: Effective as of March 15, 2021, the national average payment rate that will be reimbursed by original fee-for-service Medicare to physicians, hospitals, pharmacies and many others administering the COVID-19 vaccines on or after March 15, 2021 will be \$40 to administer each dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Note this represents an increase from approximately \$20 to \$40 for single-dose vaccines and an increase from approximately \$45 to \$80 for the administration of two-dose vaccines. The exact payment rate for administration of each dose of a COVID-19 vaccine will depend on the type of entity that furnishes the service and their geographic location.

Effective: November 15th, 2020

Clover Health is dedicated to ensuring that providers are well informed regarding the upcoming COVID-19 vaccination process. This policy is intended to lay out high-level preliminary information to ensure providers have the information needed to ensure timely access to the vaccine(s), establish a distribution plan in accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) guidance, establish appropriate reporting and record-keeping protocol, and appropriately bill for the administration of the vaccinations. Please note, due to the fact that COVID-19 vaccines will be federally purchased, this policy is focused on the administration of the vaccine(s).

Access to COVID-19 Vaccine(s)

In order to receive free supplies of the COVID-19 vaccine(s), you must sign an agreement with the US government. Under the agreement, all providers must vaccinate individuals regardless of their health insurance coverage and are prohibited from balance billing or charging vaccine recipients. Providers must administer the vaccine(s) in accordance with the CDC and ACIP requirements. Providers are also required to provide the emergency use authorization (EUA) Fact Sheets on the vaccine(s) and vaccination cards to the vaccine recipient following vaccination. Lastly, providers must also meet storage and recordkeeping requirements.

For more information on how to enroll with Medicare to be an enrolled mass immunizer, please visit [cms.gov/medicare/covid-19/enrollment](https://www.cms.gov/medicare/covid-19/enrollment).

Distribution of the Vaccine(s)

The ACIP and the CDC will be issuing guidance on priority of vaccine distribution. Although CMS expects that there will be sufficient supply of vaccines to distribute to all beneficiaries, distribution may be done in phases. Please be aware that COVID-19 vaccines may be a single-dose vaccination or part of a two-dose series. If you

administer vaccines that require multiple doses, you are encouraged to communicate to your patients they must get both doses of the same vaccine.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements

As part of the above-referenced agreement, providers are required to record details of the vaccination within their system of record within 24 hours and within the applicable public health system within 72 hours. For more information regarding the CDC record-keeping requirements, please visit [cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/downloads/COVID-19-VaccinationProgram-Interim_Playbook.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/downloads/COVID-19-VaccinationProgram-Interim_Playbook.pdf).

Billing and Reimbursement

The Federal government will pay for the COVID-19 vaccines themselves through funding approved by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. After the EUA or licensure of each COVID-19 vaccine by the FDA, CMS will identify the specific vaccine code(s). CMS will specify codes by dose if necessary and specific vaccine administration code(s) for each dose for payment. CMS has stated that they intend to create product-specific vaccine codes for each approved vaccine.

Payments for beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans, like Clover Health, will be made through original fee-for-service Medicare. As such, these services should be billed directly to original fee-for-service Medicare. CMS has confirmed that administration of single-dose COVID-19 vaccines will have a payment rate of \$28.39. For COVID-19 vaccinations requiring a series of 2 or more doses, the payment rate will be \$16.94 for administration of initial dose(s) and \$28.39 for administration of the final dose in the series. Please note that these rates recognize the costs involved in administering the vaccine(s) as well as the additional resources involved with required public health reporting, patient outreach and education, and additional time spent with patients answering questions regarding the vaccine(s).

Member Out-of-Pocket Costs

During the COVID-19 public health and medical emergency period, members will be able to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and its administration free of charge from both in-network and out-of-network providers.

Additionally, if a COVID-19 vaccine is not billed separately from an office visit and the primary purpose of the office visit is the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine, Clover health will not impose any cost-sharing requirements, such as copay, coinsurance, or deductible, with respect to the office visit.

Under no circumstances should the provider bill their patient for the vaccine(s) or an administration fee.

If you have questions regarding the COVID-19 vaccination administration process outlined in this policy, contact Clover Health Provider Services at 1-877-853-8019 from 8 am to 5:30 pm EST, Monday through Friday.