

ForwardHealth **UPDATE**

Wisconsin serving you

Your First Source of ForwardHealth Policy and Program Information



EXPANDED VACCINE COVERAGE FOR MEMBERS IN BADGERCARE PLUS AND WISCONSIN MEDICAID

Effective for dates of service on and after January 1, 2024, ForwardHealth will expand coverage for vaccines for pharmacy providers to include all Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended vaccines for members 19 years of age and older.

Note: Pharmacists who meet the requirements of Wis. Stat. § [450.035](#) may administer vaccines to members 18 years of age and younger. Pharmacy providers should refer to the Immunizations Covered for Children topic ([#20577](#)) in the ForwardHealth Online Handbook for more information about providing vaccines to children.

Allowable Vaccines

ForwardHealth will cover all vaccines that are recommended by ACIP. ForwardHealth will not cover a vaccine that has not been recommended by ACIP.

AFFECTED PROGRAMS

BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid

TO

Nurse Practitioners, Nurses in Independent Practice, Pharmacies, Physician Assistants, Physician Clinics, Physicians, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

The information provided in this ForwardHealth Update is published in accordance with Wis. Stat. § 450.035(2i).

Per [2019 Wisconsin Act 24](#), pharmacy providers may administer any vaccine listed on the CDC's immunization schedules without the use of a prescription, vaccine protocol, or standing order.

Prior authorization is not required for vaccine services.

Allowable Procedure Codes

Pharmacy providers are required to indicate the specific Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) procedure code of the vaccine administered on claims for all vaccine services. Pharmacies should not use the general administration CPT code for vaccine services. Pharmacy providers should not separately bill the administration.

ForwardHealth reimburses pharmacy providers the cost of the vaccine and the administration when the CPT procedure code is submitted on a claim. Claims submitted with National Drug Codes (NDCs) for vaccine services will be denied.

Note: For COVID-specific pharmacy policy, refer to ForwardHealth Update [2023-48](#), "Updated COVID-19 Vaccine Policy for Pharmacy Providers."

Allowable procedure codes for vaccines may change or be revised; therefore, providers should refer to the [interactive maximum allowable fee schedule](#).

No Member Out-of-Pocket Expenses

Members do not have out-of-pocket expenses for vaccines.

Claim Submission

Pharmacy providers may submit claims for allowable vaccines via the following:

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

Pharmacy providers may not submit compound or noncompound drug claims for vaccine services using NDCs as claims will be denied.

If a member is enrolled in a BadgerCare Plus or SSI HMO, pharmacy providers are required to submit a fee-for-service claim to ForwardHealth. BadgerCare

QUICK LINKS

- Submission Options topic ([#1953](#))
- 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form Completion Instructions topic ([#17797](#))
- Direct Data Entry of Professional and Institutional Claims on the Portal topic ([#4997](#))

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Plus and SSI HMOs are not able to accept claims for vaccines from pharmacy providers.

For members dually enrolled in Medicare, providers should bill vaccines to Medicare.

For non-dually enrolled PACE members, medical providers should bill vaccines to the member's managed care organization (MCO). Pharmacy providers may not bill fee-for-service for enrolled PACE members.

For non-dually enrolled Family Care members, medical and pharmacy providers may bill vaccines to ForwardHealth on a fee-for-service basis.

For non-dually enrolled Family Care Partnership members, medical providers should bill vaccines to the member's MCO, and pharmacy providers should bill vaccines to ForwardHealth on a fee-for-service basis.

PROVIDER CLAIM BILLING GUIDE		
Member Coverage	Medical Providers	Pharmacy Providers
PACE or Partnership on Medicare	Medicare	Medicare
Family Care on Medicare	Medicare	Medicare
Wisconsin Medicaid SSI on Medicare	Medicare	Medicare
Partnership not on Medicare	MCO	Fee-for-service
PACE not on Medicare	MCO	MCO
Family Care not on Medicare	Fee-for-service	Fee-for-service
BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid SSI not on Medicare	HMO	Fee-for-service

Tracking Vaccines in the Wisconsin Immunization Registry

Pharmacy providers are required to enter vaccines for all members into the Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR) within **seven days** of administering the vaccine. For more information, refer to the [WIR website](#).

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Documentation Retention

Providers are reminded they must follow the documentation retention requirements per Wis. Admin. Code § [DHS 106.02\(9\)](#). Providers are required to produce or submit documentation, or both, to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) upon request. Per Wis. Stat. § [45.45\(3\)\(f\)](#), providers of services shall maintain records as required by DHS for verification of provider claims for reimbursement. DHS may audit such records to verify the actual provision of services and the appropriateness and accuracy of claims. DHS may deny or recoup payment for services that fail to meet these requirements. Refusal to produce documentation may result in denial of submitted claims, recoupment of paid claims, application of intermediate sanctions, or termination from the Medicaid program.

Information Regarding Managed Care Organizations

This ForwardHealth Update applies to vaccines that members receive on a fee-for-service basis and through BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid SSI, and other managed care programs. For information about managed care implementation of the updated policy, contact the appropriate MCO. MCOs are required to provide at least the same benefits as those provided under fee-for-service arrangements.

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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/.