



March 15, 2021

RE: COVID-19 Vaccine, Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) Recommended Vaccines, Vaccines for Children (VFC)

COVID-19 Vaccine Information and Billing Procedures

- COVID-19 vaccines are available effective August 24, 2020 to all SoonerCare members that meet the age requirements based on the FDA Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for each specific COVID vaccine through the pharmacy POS claims system.
- All pharmacists, pharmacy interns, and pharmacy technicians administering vaccines during the PHE must meet the criteria to be considered “qualified” and must comply with all other requirements outlined in the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act), including informing the member’s primary care provider when available.
- The administration fee for COVID-19 vaccines will be paid according to the number of doses required.
- Pharmacies should submit a claim that bills \$0.01 for the cost of the vaccine itself. SoonerCare will pay an administration fee, which will replace the existing dispensing fee. Pharmacies can only bill for a vaccine and be paid the administration fee if a qualified employee of the pharmacy administered the vaccine. Otherwise, it would be considered fraudulent billing.
- **During the Public Health Emergency (PHE) period**, contracted prescriber information is not required on vaccine claims. **The provider field may be left blank or the pharmacy or pharmacist NPI can be used** to submit a claim. Additionally, an **NCPDP Submission Clarification Code (SCC) (420-DK)** value of “42” must be used. This applies to the COVID-19 vaccine **AND** all ACIP-recommended vaccines during the PHE.
- Additionally, another **NCPDP SCC (420-DK)** value may be required to identify which vaccine dose is being given and to be paid accordingly. Please see the table below to identify which code(s) may be required.

COVID-19 Vaccine Dose	Submission Clarification Code (420-DK)		Ingredient Cost Billed	Administration Fee Paid
Single-Dose Vaccine	Required Code(s)			
Single Dose	42	Blank	\$0.01	\$18.34
Two-Dose Vaccine				
Initial Dose	42	02 “Other Override”	\$0.01	\$16.94
Final Dose	42	06 “Starter Dose”	\$0.01	\$28.39

- **Back-billing will be allowed** for the COVID-19 vaccine for any claims during the PHE prior to the release of this information. The claims should be submitted for the date the vaccine was administered to the patient.
- Claims that are incorrectly billed will be subject to recoupment.

Pharmacy Update: Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) Recommended Vaccines

- Pharmacies administering ACIP-recommended vaccinations to members ages 19 years and older will be reimbursed the allowable cost of the vaccine and the **standard administration fee of \$18.34**.
- Pharmacies administering ACIP-recommended vaccinations to members ages 18 years and younger will need to become a registered Vaccines for Children (VFC) Provider to obtain the vaccine serum.
- To bill for a VFC-provided vaccine, submit a claim that bills \$0.01 for the cost of the vaccine itself. SoonerCare will pay the pharmacy the \$18.34 administration fee.
- The SCC value “42” must be used during the PHE, but these vaccines will not require any additional SCC values.

Pharmacy Update: Vaccines for Children (VFC)

The Vaccines for Children (VFC) program is a federally funded program that provides vaccines at no cost to children whose parents and guardians would be unable to afford them. The largest portion of the children in this population are Medicaid members. Pharmacies are required to be VFC providers to administer vaccines for children enrolled in SoonerCare who are 18 and under. For more information on how to become a VFC provider, please visit the CDC’s website for guidance. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc/providers/questions/qa-join.html>

SOONERCARE PHARMACY SERVICES • PHARMACY MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS



ADDRESS

P.O. Box 26901; ORI W-4403
Oklahoma City, OK 73126



WEBSITES

okhca.org
mysoonerca.org



PHONE

(800) 522-0114, option 4
Fax: (800) 224-4014