

# COVID-19 Vaccine Now a Benefit for Pediatric Population

### August 23, 2022

Effective for dates of service on or after June 17, 2022, the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized the use of the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children 6 months of age and up.

Medi-Cal Rx will now pay for the COVID-19 vaccine for the pediatric population as a pharmacy benefit under the following guidelines:

## Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine:

The FDA amended the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine to include use of the vaccine in individuals 6 months through 17 years of age:

- Ages 6 months to 5 years: 2-dose (25 mcg/dose) primary series separated by one month (28 days).
  - A third primary-series dose at least one month (28 days) following the second dose for individuals in this age group who have been determined to have certain kinds of immunocompromised conditions.
- Providers should utilize National Drug Code (NDC) 80777-0279-05 (25 mcg/0.25) and populate the appropriate value in the Submission Clarification Code field (420-DK) to represent the dose administered (first, second, or third).
- Ages 6 to 11 years: 2-dose (50 mcg/dose) primary series separated by one month (28 days).
  - A third primary-series dose at least one month (28 days) following the second dose for individuals in this age group who have been determined to have certain kinds of immunocompromised conditions.
- Ages 12 to 17 years: 2-dose (100 mcg/dose) primary series separated by one month (28 days).

 A third primary-series dose at least one month (28 days) following the second dose for individuals in this age group who have been determined to have certain kinds of immunocompromised conditions.

## Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine:

The FDA amended the EUA for Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine to include use of the vaccine in individuals 6 months through 4 years of age:

- The vaccine is administered as a 3-dose (3 mcg/dose) primary series. The first and second dose should be separated by 3 weeks (21 days). The second and third dose should be separated by 8 weeks (56 days).
- Providers should utilize NDC 59267-0078-01 (3 mcg/0.2 ml) or 59267-0078-04 (3 mcg/0.2 ml) and populate the appropriate value in the Submission Clarification Code field (420-DK) to represent the dose administered (first, second, or third).

Pharmacists are reminded that California Business and Profession's Code Section 4052.8 permits pharmacists to initiate a vaccine for children 3 years of age and older. Pharmacists are able to administer vaccinations in populations under 3 years old under certain circumstances. Pharmacy providers should review California law if they have any questions.

# **Contact Information**

You can call the Medi-Cal Rx Customer Service Center (CSC) at 1-800-977-2273, which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year.

For other questions, email Medi-Cal Rx Education & Outreach at MediCalRxEducationOutreach@magellanhealth.com.