



Coming Soon: Commercialization of COVID-19 Vaccines

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The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is expected to authorize updated COVID-19 vaccines to target the Omicron XBB1.5 variant in the coming days. Unlike the existing COVID-19 vaccines, the new commercialized vaccines will no longer be supplied free by the federal government for most members. Medi-Cal Rx seeks to inform pharmacy providers of upcoming changes with the commercialization of the COVID-19 vaccines:

- Pharmacy providers will be reimbursed for the ingredient cost for the commercialized NDCs, in addition to the \$40 incentive fee. A supplemental professional dispensing fee remains excluded for COVID-19 vaccines.
- Pursuant to the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act, which authorizes licensed pharmacists to order and administer vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) to members 3 years of age and older, the new commercial COVID-19 vaccines are a Medi-Cal Rx pharmacy benefit for members 3 years of age and older.
- For members 6 months of age up to 3 years of age, coverage of the vaccine will be available only through the Vaccines For Children (VFC) program. Products remain federally funded. To locate an eligible provider, visit <https://eziz.org/> or call 1-877-243-8832. Claims submitted to Medi-Cal Rx for members younger than 3 years of age will deny with **Reject Code 60 – Product/Service Not Covered for Patient Age** with the message, *"Product only available through a Vaccines for Children (VFC) provider for children under 3. To locate an eligible provider, see <https://eziz.org/> or call 1-877-243-8832. Age requirement not met. Prior Authorization Required."*
- Uninsured and underinsured adults may obtain free COVID-19 vaccines through [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)'s Bridge Access Program](#). The vaccines can be accessed through local pharmacies and health care providers, including Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs).

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

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