

Reimbursement for New Commercial COVID-19 Vaccines

September 21, 2023; Updated November 29, 2023

Background

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) would like to inform pharmacy providers that the new commercial COVID-19 vaccines for the Omicron XBB1.5 variant are now a covered Medi-Cal Rx benefit for members 3 years of age and older.

Unlike the prior COVID-19 vaccines, the new commercial vaccines are not supplied for free by the federal government for Medi-Cal members. The Medi-Cal Rx reimbursement policy specific to these new COVID-19 vaccines will reimburse for the ingredient cost for the commercial vaccines, in addition to the \$40 incentive fee. A supplemental professional dispensing fee remains excluded for COVID-19 vaccines.

Refer to the [Coming Soon: Commercialization of COVID-19 Vaccines](#) alert published on September 11, 2023, for more information.

What Pharmacy Providers and Prescribers Need to Know

The new commercial COVID-19 vaccines are now a covered Medi-Cal Rx benefit for members 3 years of age and older.



Review the *Mass Claim Adjustment(s)* section of the [Medi-Cal Rx Provider Manual](#).

What Pharmacy Providers and Prescribers Need to Do

Pharmacy providers and prescribers should review the following information regarding upcoming changes with the commercial COVID-19 vaccines:

- The Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act 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. Under the PREP Act, COVID-19 vaccines are available as a Medi-Cal Rx pharmacy benefit for members 3 years of age and older through December 31, 2024.
- For members 6 months of age up to 3 years of age, coverage of the vaccine will be available through the Vaccines For Children (VFC) program. To locate an eligible VFC provider, visit <https://eziz.org/> or call 1-877-243-8832. Pharmacy 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 the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s \(CDC\) Bridge Access Program](#). The vaccines can be accessed through local pharmacies and health care providers, including Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). For additional details, see the guidance from California Department of Public Health (CDPH)’s [California Bridge Access Program](#).
- New commercial COVID-19 Vaccines (2023-2024 formulas) are listed in the following table:

COVID-19 Vaccines	NDCs
Comirnaty (COVID-19 Vaccine, mRNA) (2023-2024 Formula)	00069-2362-01, 00069-2362-10, 00069-2392-10, (NEW!) 00069-2377-01, (NEW!) 00069-2377-10
Moderna (COVID-19 Vaccine) (2023-2024 Formula)	80777-0287-07, 80777-0287-92

COVID-19 Vaccines	NDCs
Novavax (COVID-19 Vaccine) (2023-2024 Formula)	80631-0105-01, 80631-0105-02
Pfizer-BioNTech (COVID-19 Vaccine) (2023-2024 Formula)	59267-4315-01, 59267-4315-02, 59267-4331-01, 59267-4331-02
Spikevax COVID-19 Vaccine, mRNA) (2023-2024 Formula)	80777-0102-95, 80777-0102-96, 80777-0102-93, 80777-0102-01, 80777-0102-04
Note: Claims submitted for NDCs not yet assigned a price will deny with Reject Code 85 – Claim Not Processed with the following supplemental messaging, <i>“No price exists for the NDC submitted.”</i>	

Resources

- [Patient Resources for COVID Vaccine](#)
- [Commercialization at a Glance: Provider Transition Guide](#)
- [Fact Sheet: HHS Announces ‘HHS Bridge Access Program For COVID-19 Vaccines and Treatments’ to Maintain Access to COVID-19 Care for the Uninsured](#)
- [CDC’s Bridge Access Program](#)

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.