

Provider Bulletin #02-15-2024

To: Clinic/Billing Managers/Supervisors & Providers

RE: REMINDER FOR COVERAGE FOR IMMUNIZATION/VACCINATION

Improving adult and childhood immunization to decrease vaccine-preventable diseases are some of the key initiatives of TakeCare's Clinical Quality Improvement Program. Routine preventive services such as immunization/vaccination for children and adults declined during the COVID-19 pandemic and many who delayed immunization/vaccination during the pandemic are still behind schedule. TakeCare encourages its network providers to assess the immunization/vaccination status of patients at all clinical encounters and calls on providers across the healthcare spectrum to take actions to improve vaccination of children and adults.

TakeCare's benefit plans covers immunization/vaccine at NO COST when administered or recommended by the Primary Care Physician (PCP) during a preventive visit.

The recommended Immunization schedules for persons aged 0 through 18 years are approved by the:

- Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
(<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/>)
- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) (<http://www.aap.org>)
- American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) (<http://www.aafp.org>)
- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG)
(<http://www.acog.org>)
- American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) (<https://www.midwife.org/>)
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP)
(<https://www.napnap.org/>)

COVID-19

In September 2023, the FDA approved or authorized updated COVID-19 vaccines for most patients aged 6 months and older against the SARS CoV2 virus. A letter from the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services issued on September 22, 2023, outlines the requirement for most plans and issuers to cover the updated COVID-19 vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna without cost sharing became effective immediately upon FDA authorization or approval of these vaccines on September 11, 2023. TakeCare supports these guidelines and ensures critical access to updated COVID-19 immunizations for TakeCare members without cost sharing.

For the latest information on COVID-19 Vaccines & Monoclonal Antibodies, including the lists of CPT Codes or HCPCS Codes, click [here](#) or visit the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services site on [COVID-19 Vaccine Toolkit](#) section.

RSV

RSV is a common respiratory virus that usually causes mild, cold-like symptoms. However, it can be extremely dangerous for babies, toddlers, and older adults. RSV patients of all age groups have been found to have [higher rates of hospital stays](#), emergency room/urgent care visits, ambulatory visits, and outpatient visits than persons without RSV infection. Adjusted total annual costs of RSV infection for adults older than 65 years have been found to be significantly higher than for adults 65 and younger and children.

Adults at highest risk for severe RSV infection include:

- Older adults
- Adults with chronic heart or lung disease
- Adults with weakened immune systems
- Adults with certain other underlying medical conditions
- Adults living in nursing homes or long-term care facilities.



TakeCare promotes the availability of RSV immunization for pregnant persons, babies and children, and adults. RSV immunization given during pregnancy has been shown to confer protection to the infant when it is given to persons who are 32 to 36 weeks pregnant during RSV season. In rare cases, a healthcare provider may determine an RSV immunization is needed for an infant even though the mother received an RSV vaccine.

RSV immunization is indicated for all babies if they are younger than 8 months and born during, or entering, their first RSV season. A dose of RSV antibody is also recommended for children between the ages of 8 and 19 months entering their second RSV season who are in at least one of these groups:

- Children who have chronic lung disease from being born prematurely
- Children who are severely immunocompromised
- Children with cystic fibrosis who have severe disease
- American Indian and Alaska Native children.

Adult and child RSV immunizations have been approved by FDA and recommended by the ACIP. TakeCare supports these recommendations and ensures critical access to RSV immunizations for TakeCare members without cost sharing.

INFLUENZA

During 2019-2020, the last influenza season prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, influenza immunizations prevented an estimated 7.5 million influenza illnesses, 3.7 million influenza-associated medical visits, 105,000 influenza-associated hospitalizations, and 6,300 influenza-associated deaths. Additionally, recent reviews have documented considerable economic impacts of influenza among adults aged 18 to 64, with the cost of influenza-related hospitalizations up to 2.5 times higher among at-risk populations within this group. Routine annual influenza immunization is recommended by the ACIP for all persons aged 6 months or older who do not have contraindications to influenza immunization. TakeCare supports these recommendations and ensures critical access to influenza immunizations for TakeCare members without cost sharing.



Note: Unless otherwise mandated, immunizations and vaccinations are covered in accordance with TakeCare's current Preventive Health Recommendations.

1. Vaccinations that are directly related to the treatment of an injury, a condition, or direct exposure to a disease, or are otherwise determined to be medically necessary:
 - a. Examples include, but are not limited to:
 - b. Anti-rabies vaccine
 - c. Tetanus antitoxin Booster vaccines
 - d. Botulin antitoxin
 - e. Anti-venom vaccine Hepatitis A
 - f. Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (Tdap)
 - g. Rotavirus vaccine
2. Meningococcal vaccine in accordance with TakeCare's current Preventive Health Recommendation.
3. Pneumococcal 7-valent conjugate vaccine (Prevnar TM) in accordance with TakeCare's current Preventive Health Recommendation.
4. Immunizations that are age appropriate and in accordance with TakeCare's current Preventive Health Recommendation.

For more information on the full list of 2024 Immunization Schedules, visit the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html> or click on the links below to download a copy.

- [Child and Adolescent Recommended Immunization Schedule, 2024](#)
- [Adult Recommended Immunization Schedule, 2024](#)

Below is the list of Current Procedural Terminology (“CPT”) for the administration of vaccines and immunizations:

Code	Description
Pediatric IA Codes	
90460	Immunization administration (IA) through 18 years of age via any route of administration, with counseling by physician or other qualified health care professional; first or only component of each vaccine or toxoid administered
90461	each additional vaccine or toxoid component administered (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure.)
Non-age-specific IA Codes	
90471	IA (includes percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, or intramuscular injections); one vaccine (single or combination vaccine/toxoid)
90472	each additional vaccine (single or combination vaccine/ toxoid) (List separately to code for primary procedure.)
90473	IA (includes intranasal or oral administration); one vaccine (single or combination vaccine/toxoid)
90474	each additional vaccine (single or combination vaccine/ toxoid) (List separately to code for primary procedure.)
RSV Vaccine Administration	
96380	Under Therapeutic, Prophylactic, and Diagnostic Injections and Infusions (Excludes Chemotherapy and Other Highly Complex Drug or Highly Complex Biologic Agent Administration) Short descriptor: Admn rsv monoc antib im cnsl
96381	Under Therapeutic, Prophylactic, and Diagnostic Injections and Infusions (Excludes Chemotherapy and Other Highly Complex Drug or Highly Complex Biologic Agent Administration) Short descriptor: Admn rsv monoc antib im njx

Below is the list of Health Care Procedure Coding System (“HCPCS”) for the administration of vaccines and immunizations:

Code	Description
G0008	ADMINISTRATION OF INFLUENZA VIRUS VACCINE
G0009	ADMINISTRATION OF PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINE
G0010	ADMINISTRATION OF HEPATITIS B VACCINE

Below is the list of International Classification of Diseases (“ICD”) appropriate for the administration of vaccines and immunizations:

Code	Description
Z23	Encounter for immunization

NOT COVERED

- Vaccines and immunizations for the purpose of international travel.
- Vaccines required for employment due to exposure risk of employment or for educational purposes.
- Vaccines and immunization for immigration purposes.
- Vaccinations not meeting the criteria listed above.