



Banner Message

Banner Message Title: GA Medicaid FAQs on H1N1 influenza vaccine

Banner Message To: Dear Providers

Request From: Medical Policy and HealthCheck

The following is intended for providers billing Fee For Service (FFS) Medicaid claims:

1. **Q: Is the H1N1 influenza vaccination covered under the Georgia Medicaid Program?**

A: Yes.

2. **Q: Will Georgia Medicaid cover the cost of the H1N1 influenza vaccine?**

A: No. Georgia Medicaid will not reimburse providers for the vaccine since the H1N1 influenza vaccine will be made available by the Federal Government at no cost to providers.

3. **Q: Will Georgia Medicaid reimburse the eligible provider for administering the H1N1 influenza vaccine? If so, what is the reimbursement rate?**

A: Yes. The reimbursement rate paid to an eligible provider for administering the H1N1 influenza vaccine will be \$8.00. This \$8.00 fee is also applicable to Outpatient hospitals administering H1N1 influenza vaccine.

4. **Q: Which Georgia Medicaid members are eligible to receive the H1N1 influenza vaccine?**

A: All Georgia Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids members are eligible to receive the H1N1 influenza vaccine, regardless of age or medical condition. Providers are encouraged to adhere to the Centers Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines for administering the H1N1 influenza vaccine to priority groups.

Note: *The seasonal influenza vaccine will continue to be limited to children through 18 years of age; pregnant women—regardless of age; adults over 50 years of age—regardless of diagnosis, including people in nursing homes; and adults in certain high-risk categories, i.e., AIDS, congestive heart failure (CHF), chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), coronary artery disease (CAD), etc.*

5. **Q: What code(s) should be used to bill Georgia Medicaid for the H1N1 influenza vaccine administration?**

A: Providers should bill CPT code 90470 (*H1N1 immunization administration (intramuscular, intranasal), including counseling when performed*), in conjunction with ICD-9 diagnosis V04.81 (*Influenza*). Because the H1N1 vaccine is not included in the Health Check Manual, providers **should not** bill a HealthCheck designated modifier with 90470. Outpatient hospital should bill the CPT code and ICD-9 in conjunction with revenue code 771.

6. **Q: How many doses of the H1N1 influenza vaccine will need to be administered to assure patients develop immunity?**

A: According to the recent MedImmune H1N1 package insert, only one (1) dose of the monovalent pandemic (H1N1) 2009 virus vaccine is required for children 10 years of age and older and adults. However, two (2) doses (at least one month apart) may be required for children younger than 10 years of age.

7. **Q: Can providers bill the H1N1 influenza vaccine administration fee in conjunction with an office visit?**

A: No. The same billing rules apply for administering the H1N1 influenza vaccine as for administering the seasonal influenza vaccine. Payment will not be made to providers for office visits when the only purpose of the visit is to administer either the seasonal influenza and/or H1N1 influenza vaccine(s). Additionally, the administration fee for H1N1 influenza vaccine will not be made in conjunction with reimbursement for an office visit, injectable drug, or Prospective Payment Service (PPS).

8. **Q: Is mass roster billing for the H1N1 influenza vaccine administration accepted by Georgia Medicaid?**

A: No. Mass roster billing is not currently accepted by Georgia Medicaid for the H1N1 influenza vaccine administration or other vaccine administrations at this time. Georgia Medicaid requires the provider to verify



eligibility and submit a separate claim for each individual member receiving services.

However, according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) MLN Matters® Number—SE0920, "Providers who normally participate in the Medicare Part B program as mass immunizer roster billers and mass immunizer centralized billers may submit H1N1 administration claims using the roster billing format" for Medicare beneficiaries.

9. Q: Who is eligible to administer the H1N1 influenza vaccine to Georgia Medicaid members?

A. Only participating providers who are actively enrolled in the Georgia Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids programs may submit claims for reimbursement. Providers not currently enrolled may enroll online at the Georgia Health Partnership (GHP) website at <http://www.ghp.ga.gov>; click on the "Provider Information" tab, then click on the "Become A Provider" link. Additionally, according to the Division of Public Health only providers who have registered, signed provider agreements, and have been approved by the Division of Public Health (state or local level) specifically for the H1N1 vaccination may receive an allocation and administer the H1N1 influenza vaccine.

10. Q: Can Pharmacy providers submit claims to Georgia Medicaid for the H1N1 influenza vaccine administration fee?

A: No. Georgia Medicaid does not enroll or provide reimbursement for professional services to Pharmacy providers outside of the drug dispensing at this time.

11. Q: Where can providers sign up to receive shipments of the H1N1 influenza vaccine?

A. Providers who have not yet registered to receive the H1N1 influenza vaccine should contact their local Division of Public Health district office. Contact information is available at <http://health.state.ga.us/regional/index.asp>.

12. Q: Can providers administer the H1N1 and seasonal influenza vaccines during the same office visit?

A: Yes. According to the CDC recommendations, inactivated seasonal flu vaccine and the H1N1 influenza vaccine may be given simultaneously in different sites. However, live, attenuated formulations of both seasonal and the H1N1 influenza vaccines may not be administered simultaneously.

13. Q: Will Georgia Medicaid's reimbursement for the seasonal influenza vaccine or vaccine administration change?

A: No. There will be no change to Georgia Medicaid's reimbursement or coverage of the seasonal influenza vaccine, or administration through the Vaccine for Children (VFC) or Physician Injectable Drugs List (PIDL) programs.

Georgia Medicaid will reimburse the vaccine administration fee ONLY for the seasonal influenza vaccines, where the vaccine is made available **at no cost to providers**, through the VFC Program. Georgia Medicaid will continue to reimburse the maximum allowed fee for seasonal influenza vaccine administered to eligible adults. The maximum allowable reimbursement for the seasonal influenza vaccine is listed on the PIDL and is accessible via the Georgia Health Partnership (GHP) website at www.ghp.ga.gov - *click on the blue Provider Information tab; then in the Medicaid Manual box, click on the "View Full List" link. Manuals are listed in alphabetical order.*

For additional information on Georgia Medicaid's coverage of the H1N1 and seasonal influenza vaccines administration:

- Visit the GHP website at www.ghp.ga.gov, or
- Contact the GHP Provider Inquiry Unit at 1(866) 766-4456 or via the Internet at www.ghp.ga.gov or
- Contact Georgia Medicaid, for HealthCheck specific questions, at (404) 651-5785 or via e-mail at Lstewart@dch.ga.gov.