

IHCP *bulletin*

INDIANA HEALTH COVERAGE PROGRAMS BT202247 JUNE 28, 2022

IHCP to cover COVID-19 vaccine counseling as part of EPSDT benefit

Effective Aug. 1, 2022, the Indiana Health Coverage Programs (IHCP) will cover stand-alone coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccination counseling as part of the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit. The Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning (OMPP) is making these changes to comply with the *American Rescue Plan Act of 2021*. Coverage applies to all IHCP programs for beneficiaries under the age of 21 who are eligible for EPSDT.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has released new procedure codes for use in Covid-19 vaccine counseling. These procedure codes are listed in Table 1.

Stand-alone vaccine counseling refers to when a patient and/or caregiver receives counseling about a vaccine from a healthcare practitioner, but the patient does not receive the vaccine dose at the same time as the counseling (that is, there is no actual delivery or injection of a vaccine during the practitioner visit) because it is not appropriate to provide the vaccine dose at that time (such as when a patient and/or caregiver does not consent to the patient receiving the vaccine dose).

Stand-alone vaccine counseling does not refer to vaccine counseling being the only service provided during the practitioner visit. However, if the patient agrees to the administration of the vaccine and it is administered during that visit, the provider would bill for the vaccine instead of the counseling.

These procedure codes are reimbursable for physician specialties, advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants. Coverage applies to fee-for-service (FFS) professional claims (CMS-1500 claim form or electronic equivalent) with dates of service (DOS) retroactive to **Dec. 2, 2021**. Coverage applies to all Traditional Medicaid and other IHCP programs that include full Medicaid State Plan benefits.

The following codes are reimbursable effective Aug. 1, 2022.

Table 1: New codes for COVID-19 vaccine counseling, effective for DOS on or after Dec. 2, 2021

Procedure code	Description	Reimbursement information	Special billing guidance
G0314	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19, ages under 21, 16-30 mins time	Max Fee: \$44.66	Allowable as EPSDT service Age Restriction: 0–20 years Diagnosis Restriction: Z00.121 and Z00.129
G0315	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19, ages under 21, 5-15 mins time	Max Fee: \$28.92	Allowable as EPSDT service Age Restriction: 0–20 years Diagnosis Restriction: Z00.121 and Z00.129



Claims submitted beyond the original filing limit must include a copy of this bulletin as an attachment. Claims must be resubmitted within 180 days of this bulletin's publication date.

Reimbursement and billing information applies to services delivered under the FFS delivery system. Individual managed care entities (MCEs) establish and publish reimbursement and billing criteria within the managed care delivery system. Questions about managed care billing should be directed to the MCE with which the member is enrolled.



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