

# – IMPORTANT INFORMATION –

## COVID-19 Vaccine Claim Submission Update

**Effective: December 18, 2020**

In response to the current novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) emergency situation, OptumRx is preparing for the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine. OptumRx will support our clients in the coverage of claims submitted for COVID-19 vaccines.

Please review the following to ensure continuity of care for members. OptumRx will be updating pharmacy benefits to include COVID-19 vaccine coverage, based on client direction, over the coming weeks.

### BACKGROUND

- There are several COVID-19 vaccines in late-stage trials and Pfizer has FDA emergency use authorization (EUA) authorization, and Moderna is pending EUA approval from the FDA.
- Once FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccines are publicly available, all members, regardless of coverage type, will have a \$0 cost-share (copayment, coinsurance or deductible), as outlined below, including when two doses are required.
  - Claims for **Commercial members**, applies to fully insured and self-funded (ASO) commercial health plans with exceptions, may be processed through a medical or pharmacy benefit at a client's discretion. Should the client choose the planned OptumRx pharmacy benefit submission details are described below.
  - CMS has mandated a \$0 cost share for **Medicare members**, including members who are dual eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid, through Medicare Part B and have advised that all providers should submit directly to FFS Medicare. As such, Medicare Advantage plans will reject with A5 advising for submission to FFS Medicare.
  - Claims for **Medicaid members** will have coverage, however, there may be State Medicaid-specific guidance, and variations may be noted at the state level. Managed Medicaid claims submission requirements may vary from details shown below and will be provided as they become available.
- At this time, the cost for the vaccine itself will be covered by the federal government via funding authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. However, where applicable, providers may submit a claim for the vaccine for payment of the administration.

### CLAIM SUBMISSION

When submitting a claim for the COVID-19 vaccine administration fee, submission should include the NCPDP fields as depicted below and follow recommended guidance.

|  | NCPDP Field Number | First Dose                           | Second Dose (If Applicable)          |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Professional Service Code (DUR-PPS)</b> | 440-E5             | MA                                   | MA                                   |
| <b>Day Supply</b>                          | 405-D5             | 1-Day                                | 1-Day                                |
| <b>Submission Clarification Code (SCC)</b> | 420-DK             | 2                                    | 6                                    |
| <b>Ingredient Cost Submitted**</b>         | 409-D9             | \$0.00<br>(\$.01 if system requires) | \$0.00<br>(\$.01 if system requires) |
| <b>Dispensing Fee Submitted</b>            | 412-DC             | \$0.00                               | \$0.00                               |
| <b>Basis of Cost Determination</b>         | 423-DN             | 15<br>(Free Product)                 | 15<br>(Free Product)                 |
| <b>Incentive Amount Submitted</b>          | 438-E3             | \$16.94                              | \$28.39                              |
| <b>Product / Service ID / NDC</b>          | 407-D7             | EUA approved NDC                     | EUA Approved NDC                     |
| <b>Fill Number</b>                         | 403-D3             | 00                                   | 01*                                  |

\*If submitted by the same pharmacy.

\*\*If the claim rejects for code **REJECT 23 M/ ingredient cost**, resubmit ingredient cost with a \$0.01.

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- Pharmacies should administer vaccines according to manufacturers' guidance and in accordance with the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Agreement and State / local jurisdiction immunization program requirements.
- Pharmacies may utilize a SCC 42 in response to a rejection regarding prescriber NPI when the prescribing NPI is the pharmacist of record and is compliant with state and federal guidance.
- OptumRx expects payment for providers will align with/close to pricing being used in government payments for first and second vaccine dose for administration:
  - Administration cost for two dose vaccine: first dose \$16.94 / second dose \$28.39
  - Administration cost for a single dose vaccine: \$28.39
- If your pharmacy receives a **Reject 817 – Not covered under pharmacy benefit**, bill medical benefits or directly through HHS.
  - If member has no insurance, submit claims through the plans medical benefit or through the Provider Relief Fund.
- **UPDATE: If the claim rejects for code REJECT 23 *M/I ingredient cost*, resubmit ingredient cost with a \$0.01.**

OptumRx appreciates all Network Pharmacy Providers additional efforts to ensure continuity of care for our members.

Should you need any clarification regarding this notice, please contact our pharmacy help desk or call the number on the back of the member's ID card.

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