




Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Managed Care Organization Transmittal No. 141
November 24, 2020

To: Managed Care Organizations

From: Tricia Roddy 
 Assistant Medicaid Director

Re: COVID-19 Vaccination and Infusion Therapy Codes

Note: Please ensure that appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this memorandum.

Effective November 16, 2020, the Department is requiring MCOs to take steps to prepare to reimburse for administration of COVID-19 vaccinations and to cover a new investigational infusion therapy for COVID-19, bamlanivimab, recently approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Additional guidance is included below.

COVID-19 Vaccine Products and Administration Coding

The American Medical Association (AMA) has [announced new vaccine-specific Current Procedural Terminology \(CPT®\) codes](#) to report immunizations for the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2). The Department requires MCOs take immediate action to add these codes to their systems so that billing may commence immediately upon release of the vaccines to the public. The Department anticipates there may be little advance notice of their release.

Vaccination products will be made available to providers at no cost by the federal government for the foreseeable future; therefore, only the cost of administration will be reimbursed. The Department intends to reimburse for vaccinations in alignment with Medicare at a rate of \$16.94 for administration of the initial dose and \$28.39 for the administration of the final dose in the series through the fee-for-service (FFS) program. MCOs must reimburse for administration of COVID-19 vaccinations at a rate set at or above the FFS rate.

MCOs should also make preparations to ensure that pharmacy providers may bill for administration of COVID-19 vaccinations. The Department intends to reimburse pharmacy providers at a rate of \$22.81 for both the first and second dose in the series when claims are adjudicated via pharmacy Point of Sale System. Due to System limitations, the Department will not be paying a differential rate. Pharmacists will be required to bill for the NDC code associated with the COVID-19 vaccination administered in order to be reimbursed for the administrative rate.

New Category I CPT codes and long descriptors for the vaccine products		
Code	Description	FFS Rate
91300	Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 30 mcg/0.3mL dosage, diluent reconstituted, for intramuscular use	\$0.00
91301	Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 100 mcg/0.5mL dosage, for intramuscular use	\$0.00
New vaccine administration CPT codes and long descriptors		
Code	Description	FFS Rate
0001A	Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 30 mcg/0.3mL dosage, diluent reconstituted; first dose	\$16.94
0002A	Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 30 mcg/0.3mL dosage, diluent reconstituted; second dose	\$28.39
0011A	Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 100 mcg/0.5mL dosage; first dose	\$16.94
0012A	Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 100 mcg/0.5mL dosage; second dose	\$28.39

COVID-19 Infusion Therapy

On November 9, 2020, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the investigational monoclonal antibody therapy, bamlanivimab, for the treatment of mild-to-moderate COVID-19 in adults and pediatric patients with positive COVID-19 test results who are at high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19 and/or hospitalization.

Medicaid programs are required to cover this therapy. MCOs should take action immediately to add the codes for bamlanivimab to their systems and begin reimbursing providers.

Bamlanivimab will be made available to providers at no cost by the federal government for the foreseeable future; therefore, only the cost of administration will be reimbursed. The Department intends to set the FFS reimbursement rate at the same rate as Medicare. Initially, for the infusion of the bamlanivimab product, the Medicare payment rate for the administration of bamlanivimab will be \$309.60. This payment rate is based on one hour of infusion and post-administration monitoring in the hospital outpatient setting. MCOs must reimburse for the infusion at a rate set at or above the FFS rate.

Bamlanivimab may only be administered in settings in which health care providers have immediate access to medications to treat a severe infusion reaction, such as anaphylaxis, and the ability to activate the emergency medical system (EMS), as necessary. Additional information regarding limitations for authorized use can be found in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) [guidance](#) and the [fact sheet issued by the manufacturer](#).

New Category I CPT codes and long descriptors for monoclonal antibody infusion		
Code	Description	FFS Rate
Q0239	Long descriptor: Injection, bamlanivimab-xxxx, 700 mg Short descriptor: bamlanivimab-xxxx	\$0.00
M0239	Long Descriptor: intravenous infusion, bamlanivimab-xxxx, includes infusion and post administration monitoring Short Descriptor: bamlanivimab-xxxx infusion	\$309.60