

Billing for Immunization (IZ) Services

How immunization services are billed depends upon:

- Payer coding requirements
- Vaccine for Children (VFC) program
 - Eligible children include:
 - Children enrolled in Medicaid or a Medicaid MCO
 - Un-insured
 - Underinsured
 - American Indian or Alaska Native
- VFC vaccines administered to a un-insured or under-insured child
- Vaccine purchased by the HD (*child or adult*)
- Vaccine funding - Section 317 grant program
<http://317coalition.org/learn.html>
- Adult Medicaid/MCO patient
- Travel vaccines
- Ability to pay/sliding fee scale
- Vaccine(s) included on the current non-chargeable list

FY17 Non-chargeable List for IZ Services

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| ○ Immunization Record Review |
| ○ Emergency Preparedness – Screening for and administration of immunizations for traditional and other emergency responders during a local or state public health emergency event |

Insurance Coverage

Medicaid MCO and Commercial payers are not obligated to reimburse for immunization services unless the LHD has a contract with the payer or the patient has out-of-network benefits.

If the patient has out-of-network benefits that cover immunization services the patient will most likely have a higher out-of-pocket expense, such as a deductible and/or copay.

Most immunizations are considered preventative services and would be covered in full if the patient receives services from an in-network provider.

Commercial Payers:

- Assign the appropriate vaccine code.
- Assign the appropriate vaccine administration code(s) 90471-90474
 - Or when appropriate use the pediatric administration code(s) **90460-90461** - information can be found:

<https://www.aap.org/en-us/professional-resources/practice-transformation/getting-paid/Coding-at-the-AAP/Pages/Bright-Futures-and-Preventive-Medicine-Coding-Fact-Sheet.aspx>

- Do not bill a 99211 if the patient visits the clinic solely to receive an immunization.
- Follow CPT guidelines that injections should be coded with the vaccine and administration codes not 99211.

Medicaid and Medicaid MCOs

- Maryland Medicaid does not recognize the vaccine administration codes 90471-90474
- Use code 99211(nurse visit) instead of the vaccine administration codes 90471-90474 when administering vaccines to adult patients unless the provider sees the patient and a higher EM level is appropriately coded.
- Vaccine for Children (VFC) vaccines are billed to Medicaid/MCOs using a **SE modifier** appended to the vaccine code.
- If the provider is in-network with the Medicaid MCO the provider will be reimbursed \$23.28 for each VFC vaccine administered.

A complete list of vaccine and vaccine administration codes are included in this manual.