

Medicare Coverage of Immunizations:

Part B versus Part D

Medicare Part B Outpatient Medical Benefits

Enrollment

- Beneficiaries must actively enroll
- Premium due to Medicare
- Eligible individuals are those 65 years of age or older, or those of any age that are disabled or have End-stage Renal Disease (ESRD)

Covers

- All influenza vaccines
- Hepatitis B and pneumococcal vaccine
- Administration fee
- Part B vaccines must be covered by Medicare Advantage Plans
- Medically necessary vaccines (Example: Rabies vaccine)

Payment for Influenza Vaccine under Part B

- National fee schedule for influenza vaccine products
- Payment for influenza vaccine is based on the presentation administered
- No copay or deductible applied to influenza vaccine or administration fee

Billing of Part B vaccines

- Physician offices submit claims for Part B vaccines directly to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs)

^aTdap = Tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis.

Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan Pharmaceutical Benefit

Enrollment

- Beneficiaries must actively enroll
- Administered by private insurance companies or pharmacy benefit managers
- Eligible individuals are those 65 years of age or older, or those of any age that are disabled or have End-stage Renal Disease (ESRD)

Covers

- Preventive vaccines not covered by Medicare Part B
 - Zoster vaccine
 - Tdap^a vaccine (booster)
- Administration fee

Payment for Vaccines under Part D

- Each Part D plan has its own payment schedule for vaccine and vaccine administration
- Patient may have financial responsibility (copay)
- Financial responsibility based on patient choice of Part D plan
- Part D plan payment schedule and patient financial responsibility should be verified for each patient before vaccine is administered

Billing for Part D Vaccines

- No contracts exist between the plan and office-based providers
 - No direct process for physician to bill Part D plans
- Claims must be submitted as pharmacy claims
- Web-based options exist for non-pharmacy providers to bill payers for Part D vaccines
 - Provider must subscribe to web system
 - Provider must accept assignment as payment in full

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