



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM5744 **Revised**

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Related CR #: 5744

Payment Allowances for the Influenza Virus Vaccine and the Pneumococcal Vaccine When Payment is Based on 95 Percent of the Average Wholesale Price (AWP)

Key Words

MM5744, CR5744, R1357CP, Influenza, Pneumococcal, Vaccine, AWP

Note: MLN Matters article MM5744 was revised on June 3, 2008, to add a reference to MM5910. MM5910 clarifies MM5744 by providing additional instructions regarding the pediatric pneumococcal vaccine CPT code 90669 and the updated payment allowance for the nasal influenza virus vaccine CPT code 90660. MM5910 may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5910.pdf> on the CMS website.

Provider Types Affected

Providers who bill Medicare contractors Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), carriers, and Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs) for influenza virus and pneumococcal vaccines

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is September 1, 2007.
- The implementation date is November 26, 2007.
- Change Request (CR) 5744 provides the payment allowances for:
 - Influenza Virus Vaccines (Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes 90655, 90656, 90657, 90658, and 90660), and
 - Pneumococcal Vaccine (CPT 90732 and 90669); when payment is based on 95% of the AWP.
- Effective September 1, 2007, the Medicare Part B payment allowance in these situations is as follows:
Influenza vaccine payments are:
 - CPT 90655 is \$16.109;
 - CPT 90656 is \$17.366;

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- CPT 90657 is \$6.609;
- CPT 90658 is \$13.218; and
- CPT 90660 (FluMist, a nasal influenza vaccine) is \$21.176 and providers should note that CPT 90660 may be covered in those cases where the local Medicare contractor determines that its use is medically reasonable and necessary for the beneficiary.

Pneumococcal vaccine payments are:

- CPT 90732 is \$29.730; and
- CPT 90669 is \$78.803.

Providers should also not the following:

- These rates apply, except where the vaccine is furnished in the hospital outpatient department, where payment is based on reasonable cost.
- Annual Part B deductible and coinsurance amounts do not apply.
- All physicians, non-physician practitioners and suppliers who administer the influenza virus vaccination and the pneumococcal vaccination must take assignment on the claim for the vaccine.
- Medicare contractors will not search their files to adjust payment for claims paid prior to implementation of these changes. They will adjust claims that providers bring to their attention.

Important Links

The related MLN Matters article can be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5744.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR5744) issued to regarding this change may be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1357CP.pdf> on the CMS website.