

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



MLN Matters® Number: MM9758

Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 9758

Related CR Release Date: September 9, 2016

Effective Date: August 1, 2016

Related CR Transmittal #: R3611CP

Implementation Date: No later than November 1, 2016

Influenza Vaccine Payment Allowances - Annual Update for 2016-2017 Season

Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for physicians and other providers submitting claims to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for influenza vaccines provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

Provider Action Needed

Change Request (CR) 9758 informs MACs about the payment allowances for seasonal influenza virus vaccines. These payment allowances are updated on August 1 of each year. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will post the payment allowances for influenza vaccines that are approved after the release of CR9758 at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Part-B-Drugs/McrPartBDrugAvgSalesPrice/VaccinesPricing.html>. Make sure that your billing staffs are aware that the payment allowances are being updated.

Background

The Medicare Part B payment allowance limits for influenza and pneumococcal vaccines are 95 percent of the Average Wholesale Price (AWP) as reflected in the published compendia except when the vaccine is furnished in a hospital outpatient department, Rural Health Clinic (RHC), or Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). In these instances, payment for the vaccine is based on reasonable cost

The Medicare Part B payment allowances for the following Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) or Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes below apply for the effective dates of August 1, 2016-July 31, 2017:

- CPT 90653 Payment allowance is pending

Disclaimer

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- CPT 90655 Payment allowance is pending
- CPT 90656 Payment allowance is pending
- CPT 90657 Payment allowance is pending
- CPT 90661 Payment allowance is pending
- CPT 90685 Payment allowance is pending
- CPT 90686 Payment allowance is pending
- CPT 90687 Payment allowance is pending
- CPT 90688 Payment allowance is pending
- HCPCS Q2035 Payment allowance is pending
- HCPCS Q2036 Payment allowance is pending
- HCPCS Q2037 Payment allowance is pending
- HCPCS Q2038 Payment allowance is pending

Payment for the following CPT/HCPCS codes may be made if your MAC determines their use is reasonable and necessary for the beneficiary, for the effective dates of August 1, 2016-July 31, 2017:

- CPT 90630 Payment allowance is pending
- CPT 90654 Payment allowance is pending
- CPT 90662 Payment allowance is pending
- CPT 90672 Payment allowance is pending
- CPT 90673 Payment allowance is pending
- CPT 90674 Payment allowance is pending
- HCPCS Q2039 Flu Vaccine Adult - Not Otherwise Classified payment allowance is to be determined by your MAC with effective dates of August 1, 2016-July 31, 2017

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will publish the approved payment allowances on the [CMS Seasonal Influenza Vaccines Pricing](#) webpage after CR9758 is released and as the information becomes available. Please note that the effective dates for these vaccines will be the date of FDA approval.

Providers should note that:

- 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.
- The annual Part B deductible and coinsurance amounts do not apply.

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- While your MACs will not search their files either to retract payment for claims already paid or to retroactively pay claims, they will adjust claims that you bring to their attention.

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR9758, issued to your MAC regarding this change, is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R3611CP.pdf>.

If you have any questions, please contact your MAC at their toll-free number. That number is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/index.html>.

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