

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
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## 2016-2017 Influenza (Flu) Resources for Health Care Professionals

**Note:** We revised this article on June 11, 2019, to update the web links. All other information is unchanged.

### Provider Types Affected

All health care professionals who order, refer, or provide flu vaccines and vaccine administration to Medicare beneficiaries.

### What You Need to Know

- Keep this Special Edition MLN Matters® article and refer to it throughout the 2016 - 2017 flu season.
- Take advantage of each office visit as an opportunity to encourage your patients to protect themselves from the flu and serious complications by getting a flu shot.
- Continue to provide the flu shot as long as you have vaccine available, even after the new year.
- Remember to immunize yourself and your staff.

### Introduction

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reminds health care professionals that Medicare Part B reimburses health care providers for flu vaccines and their administration. *(Medicare provides coverage of the flu vaccine without any out-of-pocket costs to the Medicare patient. No deductible or copayment/coinsurance applies.)*

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You can help your Medicare patients reduce their risk for contracting seasonal flu and serious complications by using every office visit as an opportunity to recommend they take advantage of Medicare's coverage of the annual flu shot.

As a reminder, please help prevent the spread of flu by immunizing yourself and your staff!

### Know What to Do About the Flu!

## Payment Rates for 2016-2017

Each year, CMS updates the Medicare Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) and Current Procedure Terminology (CPT) codes and payment rates for personal influenza (flu) and pneumococcal vaccines. Payment allowance limits for such vaccines are 95 percent of the Average Wholesale Price (AWP), except where the vaccine is furnished in a hospital outpatient department, Rural Health Clinic (RHC), or Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). In these cases, the payment for the vaccine 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.

Effective for services provided on August 1, 2016, through those provided on July 31, 2017, the following Medicare Part B payment allowances for HCPCS and CPT codes apply.

### CPT Codes:

| CPT Code | Effective Dates      | Payment Allowance |
|----------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 90630    | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending           |
| 90653    | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending           |
| 90654    | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending           |
| 90655    | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending           |
| 90656    | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending           |
| 90657    | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending           |
| 90661    | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending           |
| 90662    | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending           |
| 90672    | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending           |
| 90673    | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending           |
| 90674    | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending           |
| 90685    | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending           |

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| CPT Code | Effective Dates      | Payment Allowance |
|----------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 90686    | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending           |
| 90687    | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending           |
| 90688    | 8/1/2016– 7/31/2017  | Pending           |

**HCPCS Codes:**

| HCPCS Code | Effective Dates      | Payment Allowance  |
|------------|----------------------|--|
| Q2035      | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending  |
| Q2036      | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending  |
| Q2037      | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending  |
| Q2038      | 8/1/2016 – 7/31/2017 | Pending  |
| Q2039      | 8/1/2016– 7/31/2017  | Flu Vaccine Adult – Not Otherwise Classified: Payment allowance is to be determined by the local claims processing contractor. |

The above pricing, and any required updates, will be available at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Part-B-Drugs/McrPartBDrugAvgSalesPrice/VaccinesPricing.html>.

## Educational Products for Health Care Professionals

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The Medicare Learning Network® (MLN) has developed a variety of educational resources to help you understand Medicare guidelines for seasonal flu vaccines and their administration.

### 1. MLN Influenza Related Products for Health Care Professionals

- Medicare Part B Immunization Billing chart - [http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/gr\\_immun\\_bill.pdf](http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/gr_immun_bill.pdf)
- Preventive Services chart - <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Prevention/PrevntionGenInfo/medicare-preventive-services/MPS-QuickReferenceChart-1.html>
- MLN Preventive Services Educational Products webpage - <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Prevention/PrevntionGenInfo/ProviderResources.html>

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## 2. Other CMS Resources

- Immunizations webpage - <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Prevention/Immunizations/index.html>
- Prevention General Information - <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Prevention/PrevntionGenInfo/index.html>
- **CMS Information on OPPS Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP)** <https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Files-for-Order/LimitedDataSets/HospitalOPPSPHPLDS.html>
- Medicare Benefit Policy Manual - Chapter 15, Section 50.4.4.2 – Immunizations <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/bp102c15.pdf>
- Medicare Claims Processing Manual – Chapter 18, Preventive and Screening Services <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/clm104c18.pdf>

## 3. Other Resources

The following non-CMS resources are just a few of the many available in you may find useful information and tools for the 2016 – 2017 flu season:

- Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices - <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/index.html>
- Other sites with helpful information include:
  - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - <http://www.cdc.gov/flu>
  - Flu.gov - <http://www.flu.gov>
  - Food and Drug Administration - <http://www.fda.gov>
  - Immunization Action Coalition - <http://www.immunize.org>
  - Indian Health Services - <http://www.ihs.gov>
  - National Alliance for Hispanic Health - <http://www.hispanichealth.org>
  - National Foundation For Infectious Diseases - <http://www.nfid.org/influenza>
  - National Library of Medicine and NIH Medline Plus - <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/immunization.html>
  - **National Vaccine Program** - <https://www.hhs.gov/vaccines/index.html>
  - Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion - <http://healthfinder.gov/FindServices/Organizations/Organization/HR2013/office-of-disease-prevention-and-health-promotion-us-department-of-health-and-human-services>
  - World Health Organization - <http://www.who.int/en>

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## Beneficiary Information

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For information to share with your Medicare patients, please visit <http://www.medicare.gov>.

## Additional Information

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If you have questions, your MACs may have more information. Find their website at <http://go.cms.gov/MAC-website-list>.

## DOCUMENT HISTORY

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| Date of Change     | Description  |
|--------------------|--|
| June 11, 2019      | We revised this article to update the web links. All other information is unchanged. |
| September 12, 2016 | Initial article released.  |

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