



Medicare Part D Vaccines



What's Changed?

Note: No substantive content updates.

If you're a health care provider who administers certain vaccines to patients with Medicare drug plans (Part D), it's important to understand that their Part D plans generally pay for the vaccines and administration.

Medicare Part B Vaccines

Part B covers vaccines and vaccine administration for:

- [Flu](#)
- [Pneumonia](#)
- [Hepatitis B](#) (for people at high and intermediate risk)
- [COVID-19](#)
- Certain reasonable and necessary vaccines to **treat** an injury or exposure to a disease

Part D Vaccines

Part D plans cover all commercially available vaccines when they're reasonable and necessary to **prevent** illness, **except those covered by Part B**. For example, the shingles, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis (Tdap) vaccines are Part D vaccines.

Part D plans sometimes don't immediately add newly approved vaccines to their formularies. If a new vaccine isn't on the Part D plan's formulary, the enrollee or their representative, their prescribing physician, or another prescriber acting on behalf of the enrollee can request vaccine coverage through the [formulary exception](#) process.

Treat (Part B) vs. Prevent (Part D)

If a patient gets a tetanus shot because of an accidental puncture wound, it's covered by Part B. However, if the patient gets a tetanus booster shot, unrelated to injury or illness, it's covered by Part D.

Part D Vaccine Administration

Part D plans cover [vaccine administration costs](#) as part of each vaccine's negotiated price, including:

- Dispensing fee (if applicable)
- Vaccine administration fee
- Vaccine ingredient cost

Bill Part D vaccines, including their associated administration costs, [on 1 claim](#) when the same provider is both dispensing and administering the vaccine. This applies to both in-network and out-of-network providers.

Part D plans may pay **either** a single vaccine administration fee for all vaccines **or** multiple administration fees based on:

- Product administration complexity
- Provider type
- Vaccine type

Contact your patient's [Part D plan](#) to learn about specific vaccine administration fees.

Patient Cost-Sharing

Keep in mind:

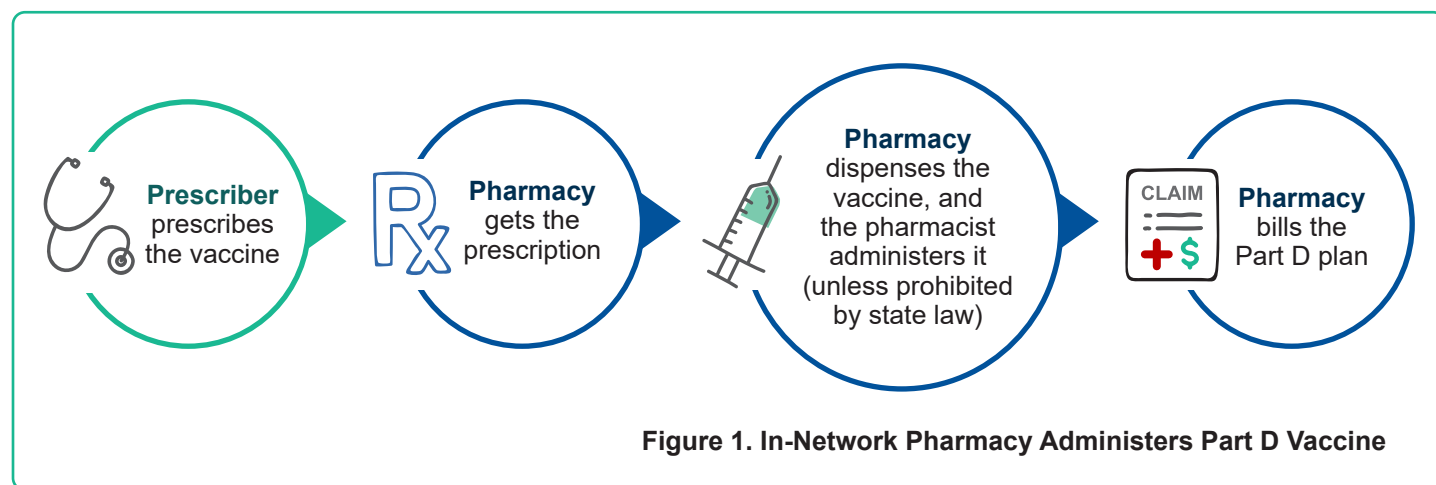
- Patients with Part D plans pay nothing out of pocket for [adult vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices](#) (ACIP) even if they get the Part D vaccine from an out-of-network provider.
- Most prescribed vaccines are ACIP-recommended. If you prescribe a vaccine that isn't ACIP-recommended, the Part D plan may charge the patient coinsurance or a copayment.
- If an out-of-network provider administers the vaccine, the patient may need to pay a vaccine administration fee at the time of service, but their Part D plan can fully reimburse them.
- There's no patient coinsurance or deductible for Part B vaccines.

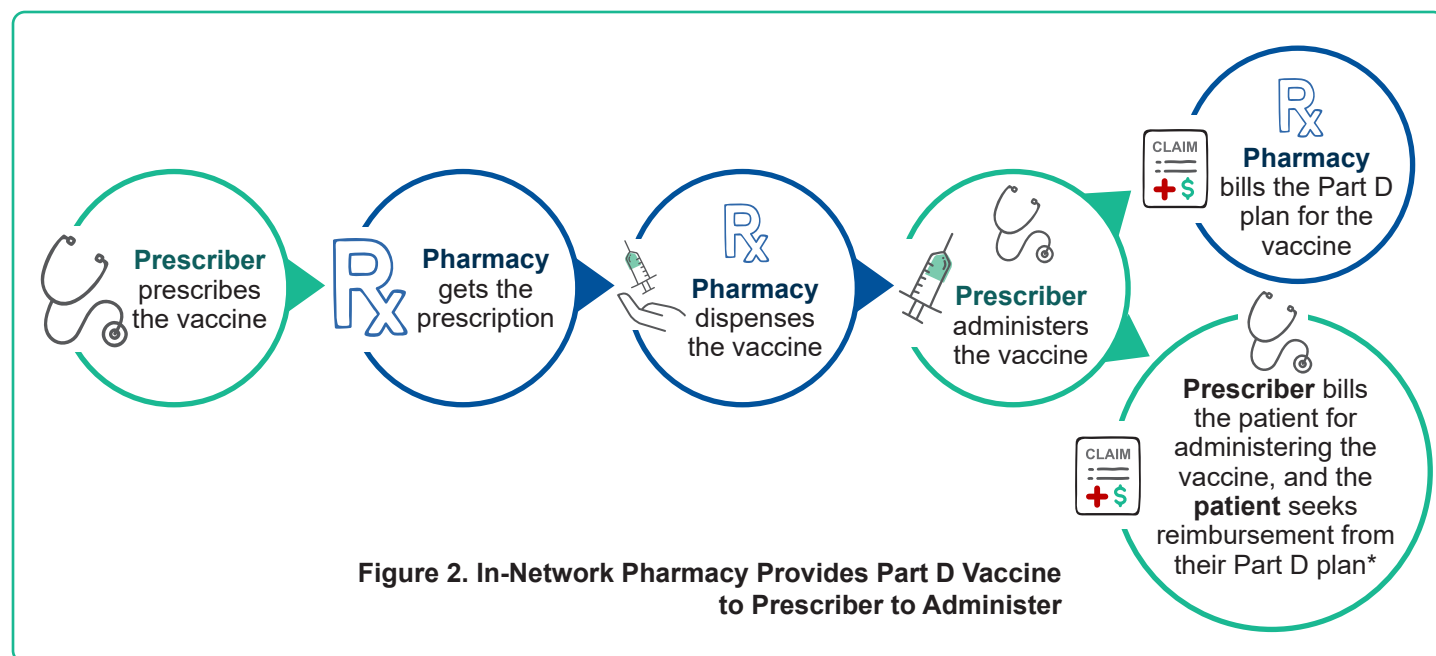
Patient Access to Part D Vaccines

Part D In-Network Pharmacy Options

If you can't bill the Part D plan directly, work with your patient and their Part D plan for payment.

Figures 1 and 2 show how in-network pharmacies can dispense, administer, and bill for Part D vaccines.



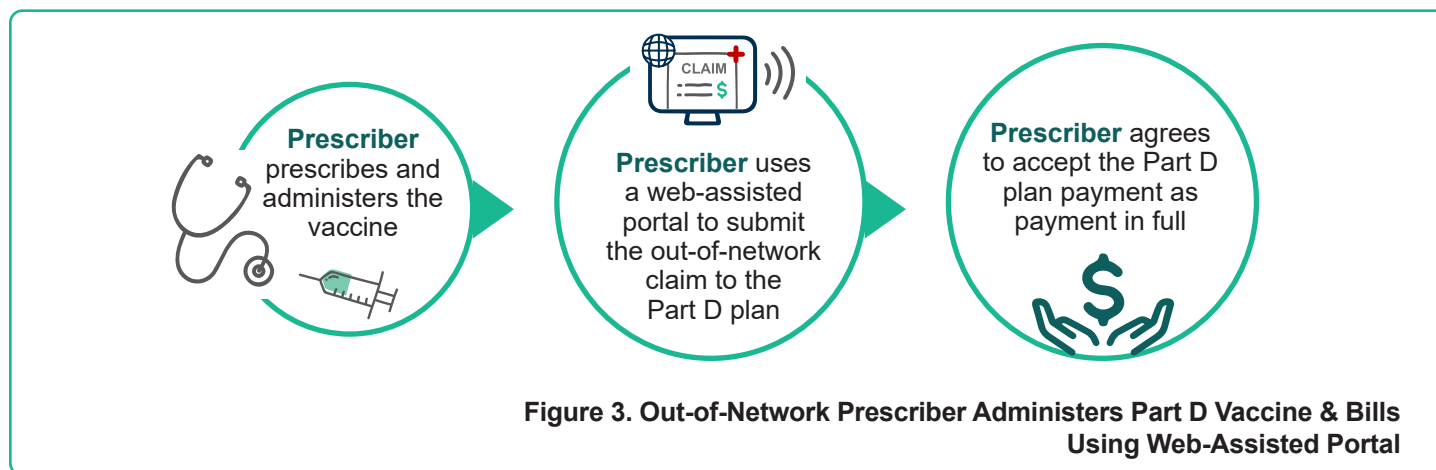


*CMS considers vaccine administration in prescribers' offices as out-of-network because we define Part D sponsors' networks as pharmacy networks only.

Part D Out-of-Network Prescriber Options

We don't require a provider to enroll in Medicare for the Part D program to cover their prescriptions. An out-of-network provider must not be on a [preclusion list](#) for the vaccine to be covered under Part D. In out-of-network situations, the prescriber may assist patients with submitting their vaccine claims. This doesn't make the prescriber a network provider. Also, we consider vaccine administration in prescribers' offices as out-of-network because we define Part D sponsors' networks as pharmacy networks only.

Figures 3 and 4 show how out-of-network prescribers can administer and bill Part D vaccines.



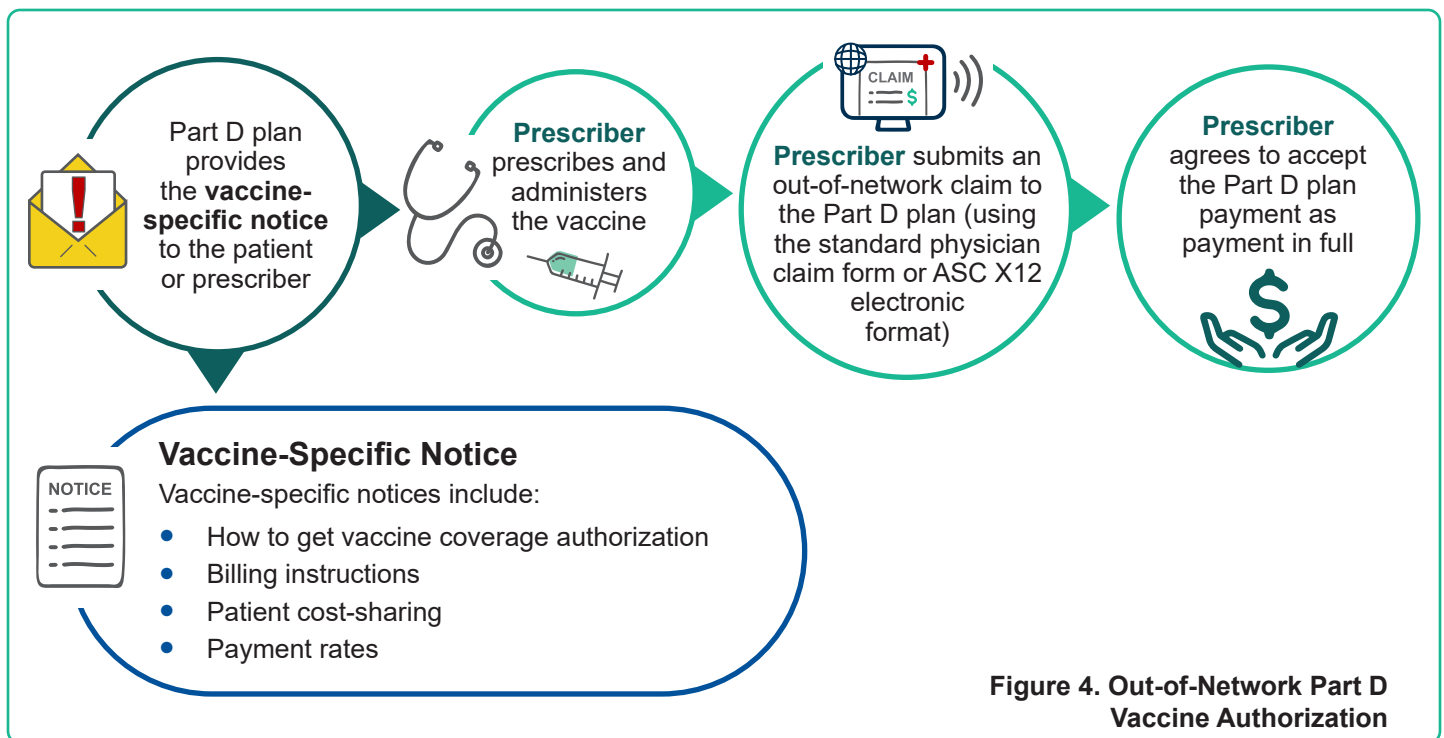


Figure 4. Out-of-Network Part D Vaccine Authorization

Resources

- [Medicare COVID-19 Vaccine Shot Payment](#)
- [Medicare Part D Patient Information](#)
- [Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Manual, Chapter 5](#), sections 60.2–60.3.4
- [Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Manual, Chapter 6](#), section 10.14
- [Prescription Drug Coverage – General Information](#)

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