

Kaiser Permanente

COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ – Updated April 28, 2021

Contracted and Non-Contracted Providers

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act requires that employer-sponsored and individual health plans subject to the ACA's preventive service mandate cover any new FDA approved coronavirus vaccine, without member cost sharing, fifteen (15) days after each is recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).

The purpose of these FAQs is to communicate to Kaiser Permanente (KP) contracted and non-contracted providers how to submit claims for reimbursement of COVID-19 vaccine administration. These FAQs reflect the requirements of the interim final rule (federal regulation) regarding vaccine administration as well as other information.

1. What is the cost share for the COVID-19 vaccine and administration?

Federal regulation provides that, for the duration of the federal Public Health Emergency, the cost share must be zero dollars (\$0.00) for the vaccine and/or its administration, and that the vaccine and/or its administration is not subject to the health plan's deductible, if any. The Public Health Emergency declared by former HHS Secretary Azar was extended through July 21, 2021. A cost share for the office visit may be charged if vaccine administration is NOT the primary purpose of the encounter.

2. Must contracted and non-contracted providers obtain preauthorization from KP to administer a COVID-19 vaccine?

No prior authorization from KP is required to administer the COVID-19 vaccine as mandated by the CARES Act.

3. Can KP members obtain a COVID-19 vaccine from a contracted or non-contracted provider?

Yes, during the Public Health Emergency, KP members may obtain a COVID-19 vaccine from a contracted or non-contracted provider. Providers must have entered into a CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Agreement to administer the COVID-19 vaccine. The Public Health Emergency was declared by former HHS Secretary Azar early last year and has been extended through July 21, 2021.

4. Are providers allowed to bill KP for the COVID-19 vaccine?

No, providers who receive vaccine dosages from the Federal government at no charge through the Operation Warp Speed (OWS) distribution may not bill for the vaccine. OWS supply is not expected to be exhausted for several months. When providers must procure vaccines at a cost, the process for administration and billing of vaccines will be updated accordingly.

5. How do providers get reimbursed for COVID-19 vaccine administration?

Providers should bill KP via EDI for vaccine administration to KP commercial (non-Medicare, non-Medicaid) members. For vaccine administration to KP Medicare members, providers must submit a

Medicare fee-for-service claim to CMS. For vaccine administration to KP Medi-Cal members (CA only), providers must submit a claim to DHCS for reimbursement. For vaccine administration to KP Medicaid or CHIP members (CO, GA, HI, DC, VA, MD, OR, WA), providers should submit a claim to KP for processing. More information is available at: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/covid-19/medicare-billing-covid-19-vaccine-shot-administration>

6. What is the KP reimbursement rate for COVID-19 vaccine administration to commercial members?

KP will not reimburse providers for the vaccine, as providers are obtaining it from the federal government which is purchasing and distributing it. KP will reimburse for vaccine administration based on the applicable Medicare rate for all fully insured (including grandfathered plan) commercial HMO, Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company (KPIC) and self-funded plan members. In-network and out-of-network providers will be reimbursed at the applicable Medicare rate for the location in which administration occurred on the date on which the vaccine is administered.

7. What codes should be submitted to KP for COVID-19 vaccine administration reimbursement?

Refer to the updated COVID-19 code set which applies to claims submitted to KP for COVID-19 screening and testing, treatment and vaccine administration.

Vaccine Administration No additional qualifiers needed	
Table 8	
0001A	Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 30 mcg/0.3mL dosage, diluent reconstituted; first dose (Pfizer)
0002A	Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 30 mcg/0.3mL dosage, diluent reconstituted; second dose (Pfizer)
0011A	Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 100 mcg/0.5mL dosage; first dose (Moderna)
0012A	Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 100 mcg/0.5mL dosage; second dose (Moderna)
0021A	Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARSCoV-2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, DNA, spike protein, chimpanzee adenovirus Oxford 1 (ChAdOx1) vector, preservative free, 5x10 ¹⁰ viral particles/0.5mL dosage; first dose (AstraZeneca)
0022A	Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARSCoV-2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, DNA, spike protein, chimpanzee adenovirus Oxford 2 (ChAdOx2) vector, preservative free, 5x10 ¹⁰ viral particles/0.5mL dosage; second dose (AstraZeneca)
0031A	Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, DNA, spike protein, adenovirus type 26 (Ad26) vector, preservative free, 5x10 ¹⁰ viral particles/0.5mL dosage, single dose (Janssen)
D1701	SARSCOV2 COVID-19 VAC Administration mRNA 30mcg/0.3mL IM DOSE 1 (Pfizer) Effective 3/15/2021
D1702	SARSCOV2 COVID-19 VAC Administration mRNA 30mcg/0.3mL IM DOSE 2 (Pfizer) Effective 3/15/2021
D1703	SARSCOV2 COVID-19 VAC Administration mRNA 100mcg/0.5mL IM DOSE 1 (Moderna) Effective 3/15/2021
D1704	SARSCOV2 COVID-19 VAC Administration mRNA 100mcg/0.5mL IM DOSE 2 (Moderna) Effective 3/15/2021
D1705	SARSCOV2 COVID-19 VAC Administration rS-ChAdOx1 5x10 ¹⁰ VP/.5mL IM DOSE 1 (AstraZeneca) Effective 3/15/2021
D1706	SARSCOV2 COVID-19 VAC Administration rS-ChAdOx1 5x10 ¹⁰ VP/.5mL IM DOSE 2 (AstraZeneca) Effective 3/15/2021
D1707	SARSCOV2 COVID-19 VAC Administration Ad26 5x10 ¹⁰ VP/.5mL IM SINGLE DOSE (Janseen) Effective 3/15/2021

¹ See also: <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/COVID-19-toolkit-issuers-MA-plans.pdf>