

Reimbursement Policy:

Part D Vaccine Billing Guidelines (Medicare)

POLICY NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE:	APPROVED BY
RPC20220032	EmblemHealth: 5/16/2023 ConnectiCare: 1/01/2017	RPC (Reimbursement Policy Committee)

Reimbursement Guideline Disclaimer: We have policies in place that reflect billing or claims payment processes unique to our health plans. Current billing and claims payment policies apply to all our products, unless otherwise noted. We will inform you of new policies or changes in policies through postings to the applicable Reimbursement Policies webpages on emblemhealth.com and connecticare.com. Further, we may announce additions and changes in our provider manual and/or provider newsletters which are available online and emailed to those with a current and accurate email address on file. The information presented in this policy is accurate and current as of the date of this publication.

The information provided in our policies is intended to serve only as a general reference resource for services described and is not intended to address every aspect of a reimbursement situation. Other factors affecting reimbursement may supplement, modify or, in some cases, supersede this policy. These factors may include, but are not limited to, legislative mandates, physician or other provider contracts, the member’s benefit coverage documents and/or other reimbursement, and medical or drug policies. Finally, this policy may not be implemented the same way on the different electronic claims processing systems in use due to programming or other constraints; however, we strive to minimize these variations.

We follow coding edits that are based on industry sources, including, but not limited to, CPT® guidelines from the American Medical Association, specialty organizations, and CMS including NCCI and MUE. In coding scenarios where there appears to be conflicts between sources, we will apply the edits we determine are appropriate. We use industry-standard claims editing software products when making decisions about appropriate claim editing practices. Upon request, we will provide an explanation of how we handle specific coding issues. If appropriate coding/billing guidelines or current reimbursement policies are not followed, we may deny the claim and/or recoup claim payment.

Policy Statement:

Health care professionals who administer certain vaccines to their Medicare patients may receive payment under the Medicare Prescription Drug (Part D) program, except for vaccines covered under Medicare Part B. Part D plans must cover all Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended vaccines.

This policy provides information for doctors, pharmacists, and other health care professionals about vaccine and vaccine administration coverage under the Part D program, as well as how to submit claims for payment.

Consistent with guidance from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), EmblemHealth/ConnectiCare **will not** reimburse claims for Part D vaccines administered in the physician’s office and submitted under the Part B medical benefit.

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Part D Vaccine Reimbursement*:

TransactRx:

If you wish to continue administering these vaccines in your office, please use TransactRx, an electronic claims adjudication portal that allows physicians to electronically submit vaccine claims under their patient's Part D benefit. TransactRx will send payments directly to you twice a month for your submitted claims.

TransactRx can also help your patients minimize their upfront, out-of-pocket costs for vaccines.

Go to <http://www.transactrx.com/physician-vaccine-billing> for details. *Registration is free.*

In-Network Administration by Pharmacy:

If you do not want to submit vaccine claims through TransactRx, please send your patients to the pharmacy to get the vaccines.

- Patients get a prescription from their physician and bring it to their local network retail pharmacy (or the physician transmits it electronically).
- Pharmacist administers the vaccine (unless prohibited by State law).
- The pharmacy bills the Part D plan,

In-Network Pharmacy Distribution to Physician:

- Patients get a prescription from their physician and bring it to the pharmacy (or the physician transmits it electronically).
- The pharmacy then fills the prescription, ships, or delivers it to the physician's office. Patients may also have the option to pick-up the vaccine at the pharmacy and bring it to their physician's office (dependent on inventory availability and storage requirements).
 - Pharmacy bills Part D for dispensing and providing the vaccine
- Physician bills Part D for administration of the vaccine only

Part D Vaccines:

Part D vaccines include all ACIP recommended vaccines *not* covered under Part B. Including, *but not limited to the following*:

- Respiratory Syncytial Virus Disease (RSV) Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)
- Meningitis
- Shingles
- Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis)

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Part B Vaccines:

Part B provides preventive coverage only for certain vaccines. These include:

- Influenza Virus
- COVID-19
- Hepatitis B
- Pneumococcal

References:

- [CDC-Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\) Recommendations and Guidelines](#)
- [CMS MLN908764 – Medicare Part D Vaccines](#)
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) publications
- Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Manual – Chapter 6 -Section 10.14

Revision History

Company(ies)	DATE	REVISION
EmblemHealth ConnectiCare	10/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy updated to include RSV Vaccines (Part D) • Policy updated to include/reference Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) vaccines
EmblemHealth	1/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Updated to include EmblemHealth Medicare Advantage Plans Effective 5/16/2023
EmblemHealth ConnectiCare	1/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reformatted and reorganized policy, transferred content to new template with new Reimbursement Policy Number