

SNF Fact Sheet

# Billing Medicare for Respiratory Vaccines



This document explains how Medicare pays for vaccines administered during a patient's stay in a nursing home. Vaccine payment depends on the type of vaccine and whether the patient is using their Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Part A benefit. This document doesn't cover vaccine payment by Medicare managed care, Medicaid or commercial insurance.

## Medicare billing guidelines

### Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccines

Medicare Part D covers RSV vaccines with no consumer cost-sharing. If the vaccine is covered under a Part D plan, the long-term care (LTC) pharmacy will not bill separately for any administration of the vaccine per Medicare Part D's [vaccine administration guidance](#). If the facility administers the RSV vaccine, the facility may negotiate an administration fee with their LTC pharmacy, but the facility can't [bill an administration fee to Medicare or the patient](#).

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#### For Part A stay residents with Part D (including hospice patients)

- LTC pharmacy will bill patient's Part D plan for the RSV vaccine if the pharmacy is in-network. If the pharmacy is out-of-network, the pharmacy will bill the patient, who can submit their receipt to their Part D plan for payment.

*Note: Vaccine access from an out-of-network pharmacy should be rare given the Part D requirement to provide convenient access to LTC pharmacies.*

- If an outside vaccinator administers the RSV vaccine, the vaccinator will bill the patient's Part D plan if the vaccinator is in-network. If the vaccinator is out-of-network, they'll bill the patient, who can submit their receipt to their Part D plan for payment.

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#### For non-Part A / long-term stay residents with Part D

- LTC pharmacy will bill patient's Part D plan for the RSV vaccine if the pharmacy is in-network. If the pharmacy is out-of-network, the pharmacy will bill the patient, who can submit their receipt to their Part D plan for payment.
- If an outside vaccinator administers the RSV vaccine, the vaccinator will bill the patient's Part D plan if the vaccinator is in-network. If the vaccinator is out-of-network, they'll bill the patient, who can submit their receipt to their Part D plan for payment.

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#### For patients without Part D

- The LTC pharmacy will bill the patient for the RSV vaccine as an uncovered service.
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## Flu, pneumococcal & COVID-19 vaccines

Medicare Part B covers influenza, pneumococcal, and COVID-19 vaccines with no consumer cost-sharing. A vaccine may be billed by the facility or the LTC pharmacy, depending on whether the patient is in their Part A stay.

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### For Part A stay residents (including hospice patients)

- Facility will bill the vaccine cost and administration fee on single claims using Type of Bill (TOB) 22X, or submit claims on a roster bill for multiple patients at a time.
- LTC pharmacy isn't allowed to bill directly for these Part B vaccines.

*Note: During the COVID-19 public health emergency, outside immunizers could bill Medicare directly for providing flu, pneumococcal, and COVID-19 vaccinations onsite at SNF facilities. This flexibility ended on June 30, 2023.*

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### For non-Part A / long-term stay residents

- Facility can bill the vaccine cost and administration fee on single claims using TOB 23X, or submit claims on a roster bill for multiple patients at a time.
  - LTC pharmacy can bill directly for both the vaccine cost and the administration fee.
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CMS updates the price and billing codes for vaccines each year.  
See [2023-24 Medicare vaccine pricing and codes](#).

## Get more information about Medicare vaccine billing

- [Medicare Billing for COVID-19 Vaccine Shot Administration webpage](#)
- [Medicare Part D vaccine administration guidelines](#)
- [CMS guidance to managed care plans for vaccine coverage](#)
- [Medicare Part D Vaccines – MLN Matters 908764](#)

