OVERVIEW
This policy documents Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island's (BCBSRI) reimbursement process for allergens and immunotherapy CPT codes. BCBSRI follows the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services regarding the reimbursement for the codes listed in this policy.

MEDICAL CRITERIA
Not applicable.

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION
Not applicable.

POLICY STATEMENT
BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercial Products
The administration of allergens and their preparation for allergy immunotherapy is a covered service.

Codes 95120-95134 describe complete service codes representing the combined preparation and supply of antigen for allergy immunotherapy in addition to the allergy injection provided. Medicare does not use these codes for payment purposes.

NOTE:
Allergy injection codes and E/M codes should not be filed on the same day unless the E/M is separately identifiable. If the E/M is separately identifiable, append modifier -25 to the office visit.

COVERAGE
Benefits may vary between groups and contracts. Please refer to the appropriate Benefit Booklet, Evidence of Coverage or Subscriber Agreement for applicable allergist office visits benefits/coverage.

BACKGROUND
Allergen immunotherapy is a treatment program for individuals who have hypersensitivity to one or more allergens. The objective of the therapy is to lessen or diminish symptoms when the individual is exposed to the allergen in the future. Immunotherapy consists of injections that contain progressively larger amounts of allergen until the individual reaches and then is able to continue on a maintenance dose level.

CODING
Blue CHiP for Medicare and Commercial:

The following codes are covered
95115 Professional services for allergen immunotherapy not including provision of allergenic extracts; single injection
95117 Professional services for allergen immunotherapy not including provision of allergenic extracts; 2 or more injections
95144 Professional services for the supervision of preparation and provision of antigens for allergen immunotherapy, single dose vial(s) (specify number of vials)
Professional services for the supervision of preparation and provision of antigens for allergen immunotherapy (specify number of doses); single stinging insect venom

Professional services for the supervision of preparation and provision of antigens for allergen immunotherapy (specify number of doses); 2 single stinging insect venoms

Professional services for the supervision of preparation and provision of antigens for allergen immunotherapy (specify number of doses); 3 single stinging insect venoms

Professional services for the supervision of preparation and provision of antigens for allergen immunotherapy (specify number of doses); 4 single stinging insect venoms

Professional services for the supervision of preparation and provision of antigens for allergen immunotherapy (specify number of doses); 5 single stinging insect venoms

Professional services for the supervision of preparation and provision of antigens for allergen immunotherapy; single or multiple antigens (specify number of doses)

Professional services for the supervision of preparation and provision of antigens for allergen immunotherapy; whole body extract of biting insect or other arthropod (specify number of doses)

Claims filed with the below codes will deny as Use Alternate Code:

Professional services for allergen immunotherapy in the office or institution of the prescribing physician or other qualified health care professional, including provision of allergenic extract; single injection

Professional services for allergen immunotherapy in the office or institution of the prescribing physician or other qualified health care professional, including provision of allergenic extract; 2 or more injections

Professional services for allergen immunotherapy in the office or institution of the prescribing physician or other qualified health care professional, including provision of allergenic extract; single stinging insect venom

Professional services for allergen immunotherapy in the office or institution of the prescribing physician or other qualified health care professional, including provision of allergenic extract; 2 stinging insect venoms

Professional services for allergen immunotherapy in the office or institution of the prescribing physician or other qualified health care professional, including provision of allergenic extract; 3 stinging insect venoms

Professional services for allergen immunotherapy in the office or institution of the prescribing physician or other qualified health care professional, including provision of allergenic extract; 4 stinging insect venoms

Professional services for allergen immunotherapy in the office or institution of the prescribing physician or other qualified health care professional, including provision of allergenic extract; 5 stinging insect venoms

RELATED POLICIES
N/A

PUBLISHED
Provider Update Sept 2018
Provider Update Feb 2013
Provider Update April 2009

REFERENCES
CMS RVU file
This medical policy is made available to you for informational purposes only. It is not a guarantee of payment or a substitute for your medical judgment in the treatment of your patients. Benefits and eligibility are determined by the member’s subscriber agreement or member certificate and/or the employer agreement, and those documents will supersede the provisions of this medical policy. For information on member-specific benefits, call the provider call center. If you provide services to a member which are determined to not be medically necessary (or in some cases medically necessary services which are non-covered benefits), you may not charge the member for the services unless you have informed the member and they have agreed in writing in advance to continue with the treatment at their own expense. Please refer to your participation agreement(s) for the applicable provisions. This policy is current at the time of publication; however, medical practices, technology, and knowledge are constantly changing. BCBSRI reserves the right to review and revise this policy for any reason and at any time, with or without notice. Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.