



**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 12|11|2020  
**POLICY LAST UPDATED:** 12|14|2020

## OVERVIEW

This policy documents that Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island (BCBSRI) will waive cost share for US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved vaccines and the associated administration services for COVID-19.

BCBSRI reserves the right to implement changes to this policy without the contractual sixty-day (60) notification that is normally required under BCBSRI contracts with its providers due to the urgent nature of a pandemic related service.

**Notice of the implementation and updates of this policy will be communicated to BCBSRI providers via a notice on BCBSRI's provider website/portal under Alerts and Updates.**

**Note: This policy is NOT effective for any specific vaccine until such time as the vaccine is approved by the FDA. The effective date for any specific vaccine shall align with the FDA approval date. As a result, each vaccine may have a different effective date. As FDA approval is issued, BCBSRI will include the effective date for each vaccine in the BACKGROUND section of this Policy.**

## MEDICAL CRITERIA

Not applicable

## PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

Not applicable

## POLICY STATEMENT

### BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercials Products

FDA approved vaccines for COVID-19 are covered when recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and when FDA guidelines are met.

BCBSRI will not impose any cost sharing (e.g. deductibles, copayments, and coinsurance) on vaccines or administration related services for COVID-19.

***Note: Evaluation & Management (E/M) services should not be filed for the administration of the COVID-19 vaccination unless the E/M represents a separately identifiable service and modifier 25 is appended to the E/M code. Please see Coding section for COVID-19 specific vaccine administration codes. Example: It is considered incorrect coding to file code 99211 or any other E/M code when the intent of the visit is for the administration of COVID-19 vaccination only.***

## COVERAGE

Services identified in this policy are covered with no cost share to the member during the timeframe the policy is in effect.

## BACKGROUND

On December 11, 2020, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued the first emergency use authorization (EUA) for a vaccine for the prevention of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) in individuals 16 years of age and older. The emergency use authorization allows the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine to be distributed in the U.S.

The FDA has determined that Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine has met the statutory criteria for issuance of an EUA. The totality of the available data provides clear evidence that Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine may be effective in preventing COVID-19.

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine contains messenger RNA (mRNA), which is genetic material. The vaccine contains a small piece of the SARS-CoV-2 virus's mRNA that instructs cells in the body to make the virus's distinctive "spike" protein. When a person receives this vaccine, their body produces copies of the spike protein, which does not cause disease, but triggers the immune system to learn to react defensively, producing an immune response against SARS-CoV-2. Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine is administered as a series of two doses, three weeks apart.

U.S. FDA COVID-19 Vaccine Emergency Use Authorization Dates  
Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine – December 11, 2020

NOTE: As of December 11, 2020, the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine has **not** received FDA Emergency Use Authorization.

## CODING

### BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercial Products

#### Claims Filing Information

##### **Vaccines Supplied at No Cost to Provider**

Vaccines supplied to providers at no cost must be filed using the appropriate vaccine procedure codes and the appropriate administration procedure code, without modifier 22 appended to the vaccine code.

#### BlueCHiP for Medicare

*In accordance with Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) billing guidelines, the following codes for the vaccine and administration of COVID-19 vaccines must be submitted to Original Medicare for all patients enrolled in Medicare Advantage in 2020 and 2021. As a result, providers should not bill BCBSRI for any BlueCHiP for Medicare services.*

#### Vaccine Administration CPT Codes

##### **Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 (Pfizer, Inc.)**

**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

**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

##### **Moderna COVID-19 (Moderna, Inc.)**

**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

**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

### **Vaccine Product CPT Codes**

#### **Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 (Pfizer, Inc.)**

**91300** 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, for intramuscular use

#### **Moderna COVID-19 (Moderna, Inc.)**

**91301** 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, for intramuscular use

### **Commercial Products**

#### **Vaccine Administration CPT Codes**

*The following codes will be covered and separately reimbursed:*

#### **Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 (Pfizer, Inc.)**

**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

**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

#### **Moderna COVID-19 (Moderna, Inc.)**

**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

**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

### **Vaccine Product CPT Codes**

*There is no material reimbursement for vaccine products that health care providers receive at no cost. However, it is required that providers file the following vaccine codes for reporting and data collection purposes.*

*Note: Providers should not append modifier 22 to the following vaccine codes, indicating the vaccine was purchased by the provider. If claims for vaccine codes are submitted with modifier 22 appended, the claim for the vaccine will be denied and providers should refile the vaccine code without a 22 modifier.*

#### **Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 (Pfizer, Inc.)**

**91300** 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, for intramuscular use

## **Moderna COVID-19 (Moderna, Inc.)**

**91301** 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, for intramuscular use

### **RELATED POLICIES**

COVID-19 Monoclonal Antibody Treatment

**TEMPORARY** Cost Share Waiver for Treatment of Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 During the COVID-19 Crisis

**TEMPORARY** COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing

**TEMPORARY** Timely Filing Limit Extension Policy – Additional 180 Days During the COVID-19 Crisis

**TEMPORARY** Encounter for Determination of Need for COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing ng

### **PUBLISHED**

BCBSRI's website

Provider Update, February 2021

### **REFERENCES**

U.S. Food and Drug Administration. FDA Takes Key Action in Fight Against COVID-19 By Issuing Emergency Use Authorization for First COVID-19 Vaccine | FDA

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