



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Office of Medicaid
www.mass.gov/masshealth

MassHealth
Community Health Center Bulletin 109
May 2021

TO: Community Health Center Providers Participating in MassHealth

FROM: Daniel Tsai, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth

RE: Community Health Centers Providing Vaccine Administration Services

Background

Community Health Centers (CHCs) are an authorized provider who may bill MassHealth for COVID-19 vaccine administration, in accordance with [MassHealth All Provider Bulletins](#) 307 (January 2021) and 312 (March 2021). This bulletin is intended to align with the requirements of those bulletins and to provide additional information for CHC providers.

In light of the state of emergency declared in the Commonwealth due to the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, MassHealth is issuing this guidance to prevent the spread of the virus and ensure efficient provision of health care services at CHCs during the public health emergency. Specifically, this bulletin provides guidance regarding billing for vaccines and vaccine administration services provided to MassHealth members by CHCs.

This bulletin applies to all CHCs participating in the MassHealth Program for dates of service beginning December 11, 2020.

Vaccine and Vaccine Administration Services Provided by CHCs

CHCs are providing essential services to MassHealth members, including vaccine and vaccine administration services. CHCs may bill the appropriate vaccine and vaccine administration codes, as described in MassHealth All Provider Bulletin 307 and MassHealth All Provider Bulletin 312, for such services. However, in the event that such services are provided as part of an individual medical visit, as defined in 130 CMR 405.402, CHCs may bill MassHealth for the visit **or** the vaccine administration, but cannot bill for both services provided in the same visit. For tracking purposes, CHCs must also bill the appropriate no-cost vaccine code (91300 SL, 91301 SL, or 91303 SL) for every vaccine administered, regardless of whether the CHC is billing using the vaccine administration code or the visit code.

The CHC provider is responsible for ensuring that the services provided are billed appropriately and according to MassHealth regulations, including but not limited to 130 CMR 405.000: *Community Health Center Services* and 101 CMR 304.00: *Rates for Community Health Centers*. CHCs that bill for an individual medical visit for visits in which vaccine administration services are provided must ensure that the visit amounts to an individual medical visit as defined under 130 CMR 405.402: *Definitions*. For example, a visit involving a meeting between a member and a physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant or registered nurse at the CHC and including COVID-19 vaccine education/counseling, administration of the vaccine, and monitoring for adverse reactions to the vaccine in a single visit may be billed as an individual medical visit using code T1015.

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Temporarily Licensed CHC Sites

Temporarily licensed CHC sites that have been approved for operation by the Department of Public Health (DPH) are satellite sites that are considered part of the CHC, in accordance with 130 CMR 405.406(A): *Licensing*. For as long as the DPH approval is valid, CHCs may provide the services that have been approved by DPH at such temporary sites and may bill MassHealth for those services.

CHCs should notify Priscilla Portis, Director of FFS Provider Networks, via email at priscilla.portis@mass.gov, that they have been approved for such temporary site, and should include the types of services that may be provided at the temporary site in the email.

Additionally, a CHC may bill for services provided by the CHC at the CHC's temporary site(s) or at the CHC's permanent location(s), even if the services provided are rendered or supported by Massachusetts National Guard personnel or other state staffing assistance. The CHC must provide appropriate oversight and supervision of all personnel providing services at the CHC or its temporary site(s), including any Massachusetts National Guard personnel or other supportive personnel provided by the state.

MassHealth Website

This bulletin is available on the [MassHealth Provider Bulletins](#) web page.

To sign up to receive email alerts when MassHealth issues new bulletins and transmittal letters, send a blank email to join-masshealth-provider-pubs@listserv.state.ma.us. No text in the body or subject line is needed.

Questions

If you have any questions about the information in this bulletin, please contact the MassHealth Customer Service Center at (800) 841-2900, email your inquiry to providersupport@mahealth.net, or fax your inquiry to (617) 988-8974.