




**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Executive Office of Health and Human Services**  
**Office of Medicaid**  
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**MassHealth**  
**Managed Care Entity Bulletin 67**  
**August 2021**

**TO:** Managed Care Entities and PACE Organizations Participating in MassHealth

**FROM:** Amanda Cassel Kraft, Acting Assistant Secretary for MassHealth 

**RE:** **Coverage and Payment Policy for Services Related to COVID-19 Vaccine Counseling and 3rd Dose of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna Vaccines for Immunocompromised Individuals**

**Applicable Managed Care Entities and PACE Organizations**

- Accountable Care Partnership Plans (ACPPs)
- Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)
- MassHealth's behavioral health vendor
- One Care Plans
- Senior Care Organizations (SCOs)
- Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Organizations

**Overview**

MassHealth's mission is to improve the health outcomes of our diverse members and their families by providing access to integrated health care services that sustainably and equitably promote health, well-being, independence, and quality of life. In support of that mission, MassHealth provides broad coverage of medically necessary health care services to its members. As part of its ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and to increase rates of COVID-19 vaccination for MassHealth members, MassHealth is directing additional coverage for COVID-19 vaccine counseling services. In order to provide further vaccine support for members, MassHealth is also directing coverage of a third dose of certain COVID-19 vaccines for certain immunocompromised individuals.

This bulletin applies to Accountable Care Partnership Plans (ACPPs), Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), One Care Plans, and SCOs (collectively, "managed care plans") as well as Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) organizations. The policies in this bulletin align with those policies that apply to MassHealth's fee-for-service (FFS) program, the Primary Care Clinician (PCC) Plan, and Primary Care Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) as set forth in MassHealth [All Provider Bulletin 321](#) and [All Provider Bulletin 322](#).

**Coverage of Vaccine Counseling Services**

Through this bulletin, and as further described in MassHealth [All Provider Bulletin 321](#), MassHealth is directing managed care plans (as defined above) and PACE organizations to cover clinically

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appropriate, medically necessary COVID-19 vaccine counseling services for dates of service on or after July 26, 2021, as provided by the providers and for the CPT codes set forth below:

- physicians and acute outpatient hospitals for CPT codes 99401, 99402, 99403, and 99404; and
- community health centers (CHCs) for CPT codes 99401, 99403, and 99404.

**Coverage for 3rd Dose of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine for Immunocompromised Individuals**

On August 12, 2021, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) amended the emergency use authorizations (EUAs) for both Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine and the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine to allow for the use of an additional dose in certain immunocompromised individuals, specifically, solid organ transplant recipients or those who are diagnosed with conditions that are considered to have an equivalent level of immunocompromise.

Through this bulletin, and as further described in [All Provider Bulletin 322](#), MassHealth is directing managed care plans (as defined above) and PACE organizations, to cover administration of the third dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to individuals who qualify for the additional dose for dates of service on or after August 12, 2021.

Managed care plans and PACE organizations shall conform their coverage policies to match those in [All Provider Bulletin 321](#). Managed care plans shall additionally conform their payment rates to match those in [All Provider Bulletin 322](#). There is no member cost sharing for any vaccines.

**MassHealth Website**

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

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**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](mailto:providersupport@mahealth.net), or fax your inquiry to (617) 988-8974.