

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

> MassHealth Physician Bulletin 100 September 2019

TO: Physicians Participating in MassHealth

FROM: Daniel Tsai, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth

RE: Pediatric Immunization Administration Code Reimbursement Change

Background

As explained in *Physician Bulletin 90*, providers use service codes 90460 and 90461 when administering pediatric immunizations. These codes are:

90460 - Immunization administration through 18 years of age via any route of administration, with counseling by physician or other qualified health care professional; first or only component of each vaccine or toxoid administered.

90461 - Immunization administration through 18 years of age via any route of administration, with counseling by physician or other qualified health care professional; each additional vaccine or toxoid component administered. (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure.)

Providers use these same service codes with modifier "SL" for state-supplied vaccines (90460-SL or 90461-SL, as appropriate). In accordance with guidelines from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), under the Vaccine for Children (VFC) program, MassHealth reimburses for vaccine administration on a per vaccine basis, and not on a per antigen or per combination basis.

Service code 90460 should be billed for the first administered vaccine with 1 unit. Any subsequent vaccines should be billed with service code 90461 up to a maximum of 5 units.

Reimbursement Change

Effective October 15, 2019 claims with service code 90461 and 90461-SL will be paid according to the rates listed at <u>101 CMR 317.00</u>: *Medicine*.

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Billing Reminder

In accordance with 130 CMR 433.413(C), a physician may bill for either an office visit or vaccine administration, but may not bill for both an office visit and vaccine administration for the same member on the same date when the office visit and the vaccine administration are performed in the same location. This limitation does not apply to a significant, separately identifiable office visit provided by the same physician on the same day as the vaccine was administered. MassHealth does not pay for the cost of the injectable material if the Massachusetts Department of Public Health or a local board of health distributes the injectable material free of charge. See 130 CMR 433.413(C) and CMR 433.447(F).

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Questions

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