



COVID-19 Resource



 **ALLIANT**
HEALTH SOLUTIONS

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What Is the 23-24 COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendation?

EXISTING RECOMMENDATION

Everyone over 6 months of age SHOULD receive an updated COVID-19 vaccine.

NEW ACIP RECOMMENDATION FOR SPRING 2024 FOR 65+

Everyone 65 years and older should receive one additional dose of any updated (2023–2024 formula) COVID-19 vaccine (e.g., Moderna, Novavax, Pfizer-BioNTech).

WHY?

People over 65 years of age are more likely to be hospitalized or die from COVID-19 compared to younger people due to age related factors and/or presence of medical conditions that increase the risk of severe COVID-19.



NHSN new up-to-date definition: Individuals aged 65 years and older are up to date when they received two doses of the updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine or received one dose of the updated 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine in the past four months, per the [CDC](#).

Ordering

Order **all three** vaccines through your medical supply company, pharmacy or wholesaler. To order directly from Moderna, visit [Modernadirect.com](#). To order Pfizer, visit [primevaccines.pfizer.com](#). Novavax can only be ordered through your medical supply company or pharmacy.

	Pfizer	Moderna	Novavax
Type	mRNA	mRNA	Protein
Single/Multi-Dose	Single dose vial	Single dose vial	Multi-dose vial
Temperature	Fridge temps. 36-46 degrees Fahrenheit	Freezer for up to nine months -58 to 5 degrees Fahrenheit, fridge 30 days at 36-46 degrees Fahrenheit	Fridge temps 36-46 degrees Fahrenheit
Direct Ordering	Available	Available	Not available. Order through a medical supply company.
Minimum Doses	Minimum direct order is two boxes which is 20 vaccines.	Minimum direct order is one box or 10 vaccines.	Minimum order of two vials (10 doses) from the medical supply company
Trade Name	COMIRNATY	Spikevax	NVX-CoV2373
Pre-Ordering	Direct from Pfizer or through a wholesaler or pharmacy	Direct from Moderna or through a wholesaler or pharmacy	Available through a wholesaler.

Eliminate Your Access Issues for Next Year

Pre-order the COVID-19 vaccine with your flu vaccines for next fall! Contact your pharmacy, or wholesaler or order directly from the pharmaceutical company.

Pre-ordering the vaccine will:

- Protect those most vulnerable to the poor outcomes of respiratory infections
- Improve quality of life for residents
- Allow for more resident-centered care
- Improve vaccination rates, hospitalization rates and other quality measures in Care Compare

How to Bill

CODING

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the American Medical Association (AMA) have established codes for billing vaccines.

There are two components to billing any vaccine administered: the vaccine product/ingredients and its administration.

For the most up-to-date information on specific codes, visit the following websites:

Roster Billing:

Roster billing with your MAC:

www.cms.gov/medicare/payment/covid-19/definitions

Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 6 with consolidated billing guidance:

www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Downloads/clm104c06.pdf

Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 18 with vaccine guidance:

www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Downloads/clm104c18pdf.pdf

Specific Codes:

Updated COVID-19 CPT codes:

www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/cpt/covid-19-cpt-vaccine-and-immunization-codes

List of CPT/HCPCS codes:

www.cms.gov/medicare/regulations-guidance/physician-self-referral/list-cpt/hcpcs-codes

In skilled nursing facilities, a vaccine may be billed by the facility or the long-term care pharmacy, depending both on whether a resident is in their Part A stay as well as what vaccine is being administered.

STAFF

The LTC pharmacy can procure and bill for staff vaccination but it is typically considered out of network and not covered, leaving the facility or individual staff member to cover the bill.

The facility can choose to eat the cost of the vaccine or send staff elsewhere (eg, retail pharmacy or provider office that is a part of the insured staff person's network).

For COVID-19, uninsured staff can go to CVS/Walgreens, state they are uninsured, and use the Bridge Access Program. For other pharmacies who have applied to be Bridge Access Providers with eTrueNorth, an individual has to go online and get a QR code to prove they are uninsured.

For more information, please contact movingneedles@paltc.org

Source: Moving Needles - AMDA/PALTC, www.movingneedles.org

Influenza, pneumococcal, and COVID-19 vaccines

Influenza, pneumococcal, and COVID-19 vaccines are billed as part of Medicare Part B. Hepatitis B vaccine is covered under Part B only if an individual is considered to be at high risk – residents of long term care are considered high risk.

Part A Stay Resident

FACILITY

Vaccine product and administration fee must be billed by facility using roster billing on a Part B claim

PHARMACY

The LTC pharmacy is not allowed to bill directly for Part B vaccines for residents in their Part A stay

Non-Part A/Long-term Stay Resident

FACILITY

Facility can use roster billing for both the vaccine cost and the administration fee on a Part B claim

PHARMACY

Pharmacy can bill directly for both the vaccine cost and the administration fee



If the facility staff administered the vaccine, they can ask the pharmacy to bill the administration fee and provide it back to the facility. This should be written into contracts between facilities and pharmacies.

Because vaccinations are not part of the Medicare hospice benefit, hospice claims (*type of bill 81X or 82X*) for vaccine services must be billed on a separate institutional claim and must only include charges for the vaccine and their administration.

Hospice

COVID-19: For hospice patients under Part B only, include the GW modifier on COVID-19 vaccine administration claims if either of these apply:

1. The vaccine isn't related to the patient's terminal condition.
2. The attending physician administered the vaccine.

Tdap, shingles, and RSV vaccine

Tdap, shingles, and RSV are billed through Medicare Part D. Hepatitis B vaccine is covered under Part D if an individual is not at high risk.

Part A Stay Resident

PHARMACY

Pharmacies must provide and bill for the cost of the vaccine product and may bill for the administration fee

Non-Part A/Long-term Stay Resident

PHARMACY

Pharmacies must provide and bill for the cost of the vaccine product and may bill for the administration fee



If the facility staff administered the vaccine, they can ask the pharmacy to bill the administration fee and provide it back to the facility. This should be written into contracts between facilities and pharmacies.



Exceptions and special circumstances

When a vaccine such as Tdap (Part D) is administered therapeutically (i.e., post exposure) instead of preventively, it is included in the Part A global bundled payment for Part A stay residents.