

Chapter 31

Immunizations & Vaccinations

Immunizations are one of the best weapons against a number of serious diseases. Vaccination is a covered health care service for Minnesotans enrolled in South Country Health Alliance or any other publicly funded Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP).

MHCP coordinates with the Minnesota Department of Health's (MDH) Minnesota Vaccine For Children (MnVFC) program to provide pediatric vaccines at no cost to providers. The MDH MnVFC Program is for recipients ages 0 through 18. As of Jan. 1, 2014, MDH no longer provides free vaccines for adults age 19 or older. However, South Country Health Alliance (SCHA) will continue to cover adult flu vaccines and other recommended vaccinations for adults. Providers cannot use MnVFC Program stock to bill South Country Health Alliance for adult vaccines.

Eligible Providers

The following enrolled South Country Health Alliance providers may bill for vaccines and toxoids and its administration:

- Certified family nurse practitioners
- Certified pediatric nurse practitioners
- Certified nurse-midwives
- Child and Teen Checkups providers
- Clinics
- Convenience clinics
- Home health agencies
- Outpatient and inpatient hospitals
- Pharmacies
- Physicians
- Public health clinics
- Public health nursing clinic providers

All South Country Health Alliance enrolled Providers who administered Pediatric vaccine are required by [Minnesota Statutes](#) (256B.0625, subd. 39) to enroll in the MCH MnVFC program.

Covered Services

South Country Health Alliance covers the following services:

- Vaccines
- Toxoids
- Administration of vaccines and toxoids
- Office visits associated with administering vaccinations when the appointment is not solely to administer vaccinations

Noncovered Services

South Country Health Alliance does not cover the following:

- Reimbursement for vaccines available from the MDH MnVFC Program that are not obtained and used for eligible recipients
- Reimbursement for vaccines obtained at no cost from MDH MnVFC Program

Billing

South Country Health Alliance reimburses office visits associated with administering vaccinations when the visit is not solely to administer vaccines. Do not bill office visit if visit is solely to administer vaccines.

Claim lines deny when billing the following:

- A vaccine administration code is billed without a vaccine code.
- A vaccine code and vaccine administration code billed on separate claims.

Seasonal Influenza Vaccines

The flu season and flu vaccine begins in the fall each year, although the availability of the seasonal flu vaccine and distribution timing may vary. South Country Health Alliance covers seasonal flu vaccine once per flu season when administered by a qualified provider. Providers must obtain pediatric flu vaccines from the MDH MnVFC Vaccine Program when available. For information regarding the flu vaccine availability and distribution, contact MDH or refer to www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/immunize/hcp/index.html

Quick Reference for Vaccine and Toxoid Administration Codes

Use the appropriate administration code with each single or combination vaccine or toxoid.

Code	Use to report administering:	Administration Route	Limitations
90460	Single or 1st vaccine/toxoid component of combination vaccine	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 18 years and younger• Physician or other health care professional counseling• Report multiple units on same line• First/only vaccine/toxoid component• Use with 90461, 90472 or 90474
90461	Each additional component of combination vaccine	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use only with 90460• Report multiple units on same line• Use to report each additional vaccine/toxoid component
90471	1 vaccine (single or combination)	Percutaneous Intradermal Subcutaneous Intramuscular	Do not use with 90473

90472	Each additional vaccine	Percutaneous Intradermal Subcutaneous Intramuscular	Use with 90460, 90471 or 90473; list separately (not on same line)
90473	1 vaccine (single or combination)	Oral Intranasal	Do not use with 90471
90474	Each additional vaccine (single or combination)	Oral Intranasal	Use with 90460, 90471 or 90473; list separately (not on same line)
G0008	Single or 1st vaccine/toxoid component of combination vaccine	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Billed with vaccine codes: 90655, 90656, 90657, 90658, 90672, 90673, 90685, 90686, 90687, 90688, Q2033, Q2034, Q2035, Q2036, Q2037, Q2038, Q2039 • Use with 90472 or 90474 list separately (not on same line)
G0009	Single or 1st vaccine/toxoid component of combination vaccine	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Billed with vaccine codes: 90669, 90670, 90732 • Use with 90472 or 90474 list separately (not on same line)
G0010	Single or 1st vaccine/toxoid component of combination vaccine	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Billed with vaccine codes: 90740, 90744, 90746, 90747 • Use with 90472 or 90474 list separately (not on same line)

Vaccines covered by Medicare

Some vaccines are covered under Medicare Part B and others under Part D. Members receiving vaccinations through their Medicare benefit must follow Medicare regulations. SCHA members who choose to receive their Medicare Part D vaccination through a pharmacy must use a network pharmacy.

Medicare Part B covers the following immunizations: Hepatitis B vaccine (for patients at high or intermediate risk); Influenza virus vaccine; Pneumococcal pneumonia vaccine; and vaccines directly related to the **treatment** of an injury or direct **exposure** to a disease or condition. Providers must bill Medicare Part B directly for both the vaccine and its administration.

Medicare Part D covers some prescribed vaccines not available under Part B for preventative purposes when medically necessary. South Country Health Alliance offers Medicare Part D coverage to eligible members. Medicare Part D eligible vaccines and administration costs must be billed to the member's Medicare part D benefit plan. For a formulary Medicare Part D Drug and vaccination list please visit: https://mnscha.org/?page_id=6761

Claims for vaccines classified as Part D-eligible cannot be reimbursed through South Country Health Alliance's medical administration. They must go through the pharmacy benefit in accordance with Part D regulations.

Zostavax

Zostavax is a covered benefit for SeniorCare Complete and AbilityCare programs under Medicare Part D. South Country Health Alliance (SCHA) offers medical providers the following option for billing Zostavax shingles vaccine and administration:

- At the time of the clinic visit providers must assist the enrollee/patient with completing the [Zostavax \(Shingles\) Claim Form \(pdf\)](#).

- The Zostavax Vaccine and Administration Claim Form must be mailed or faxed directly to South Country at:

SCHA Member Services
2300 Park Drive, Suite 100
Owatonna, MN 55060

Fax number: 507-431-6328

It is recommended that the provider and enrollee/patient keep a copy of the completed form for their records. Payment will be made directly to the provider's office.

For more information about Medicare Part D please visit:

- <https://mnscha.org/wp-content/uploads/SCCMemberHandbook.pdf>
- <https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/Vaccines-Part-D-Factsheet-ICN908764.pdf>

Additional Information

For more information about free vaccine availability from MDH through MnVFC program, please visit: <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/immunize/index.html>.

Immunization and Vaccinations Resources:

- [CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Immunization Schedules](#)
- [MHCP Provider Manual – Immunizations and Vaccinations Section](#)
- [Minnesota Department of Health \(MDH\) Immunization](#)
- [Vaccine Information Statements in Multiple Languages](#)
- [C&TC Immunizations and Review FACT Sheet](#)