



## Influenza Vaccine Payment Allowances - Annual Update for 2017-2018 Season

MLN Matters Number: MM10224

Related Change Request (CR) Number: CR 10224

Related CR Release Date: August 18, 2018

Effective Date: August 1, 2017

Related CR Transmittal Number: R3837CP

Implementation Date: No later than  
October 2, 2017

### PROVIDER TYPE AFFECTED

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This MLN Matters Article is intended for physicians and other providers submitting claims to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for influenza vaccines provided to Medicare beneficiaries

### PROVIDER ACTION NEEDED

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Change Request (CR) 10224 informs MACs about the payment allowances for seasonal influenza virus vaccines, which are updated on August 1 of each year. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will post the payment allowances for influenza vaccines that are approved after the release of CR10224 at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Part-B-Drugs/McrPartBDrugAvgSalesPrice/VaccinesPricing.html>. Make sure your billing staffs are aware that the payment allowances are being updated.

### BACKGROUND

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The Medicare Part B payment allowance limits for influenza and pneumococcal vaccines are 95 percent of the Average Wholesale Price (AWP) as reflected in the published compendia except where the vaccine is furnished in a hospital outpatient department, Rural Health Clinic (RHC), or Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). Where the vaccine is furnished in the hospital outpatient department, RHC, or FQHC, payment for the vaccine is based on reasonable cost.

The Medicare Part B payment allowances for the following Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) or Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes below apply for the effective dates of August 1, 2017-July 31, 2018:

- CPT 90653 Payment allowance is \$50.217.
- CPT 90655 Payment allowance is pending.
- CPT 90656 Payment allowance is \$19.247.
- CPT 90657 Payment allowance is pending.

- CPT 90661 Payment allowance is pending.
- CPT 90685 Payment allowance is \$21.198.
- CPT 90686 Payment allowance is \$19.032.
- CPT 90687 Payment allowance is \$9.403.
- CPT 90688 Payment allowance is \$17.835.
- HCPCS Q2035 Payment allowance is \$17.685.
- HCPCS Q2036 Payment allowance is pending.
- HCPCS Q2037 Payment allowance is \$17.685.
- HCPCS Q2038 Payment allowance is pending.

Payment for the following CPT or HCPCS codes may be made if your MAC determines its use is reasonable and necessary for the beneficiary, for the effective dates of August 1, 2017 - July 31, 2018:

- CPT 90630 Payment allowance is \$20.343.
- CPT 90654 Payment allowance is pending.
- CPT 90662 Payment allowance is \$49.025.
- CPT 90672 Payment allowance is pending.
- CPT 90673 Payment allowance is \$40.613.
- CPT 90674 Payment allowance is \$24.047.
- CPT 90682 Payment allowance is \$46.313. (New code)
- CPT 90756 Payment allowance is \$22.793. Effective dates: 1/1/2018-7/31/2018 (Note: Providers and Medicare Administrative Contractors shall use HCPCS Q2039 for dates of service from 8/1/2017 – 12/31/2017. See special note under HCPCS Q2039 for payment amounts for this product prior to 1/1/2018.)
- HCPCS Q2039 Flu Vaccine Adult - Not Otherwise Classified. Payment allowance is to be determined by your MAC with effective dates of 8/1/2017 - 7/31/2018.

Special note: Until CPT code 90756 is implemented on 1/1/2018, Q2039 shall be used for products described by the following language: influenza virus vaccine, quadrivalent (ccIIV4), derived from cell cultures, subunit, antibiotic free, 0.5mL dosage, for intramuscular use. The payment allowance for these products, effective for dates of service 8/1/2017 - 12/31/2017 is \$22.793.

CMS will post payment limits for influenza vaccines that are approved after the release date of CR10224 on the CMS Seasonal Influenza Vaccines Pricing webpage at <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Part-B-Drugs/McrPartBDrugAvgSalesPrice/VaccinesPricing.html> as information becomes available. Effective dates for these vaccines shall be the date of Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval.

The payment allowances for pneumococcal vaccines are based on 95 percent of the AWP and are updated on a quarterly basis via the Quarterly Average Sales Price (ASP) Drug Pricing Files.

Providers should note that:

- All physicians, non-physician practitioners, and suppliers who administer the influenza virus vaccination and the pneumococcal vaccination must take assignment on the claim for the vaccine.
- The annual Part B deductible and coinsurance amounts do not apply.
- Your MACs will not search their files either to retract payment for claims already paid or to retroactively pay claims. However, MACs will adjust such claims that you bring to their attention.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, CR10224, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2017Downloads/R3837CP.pdf>.

If you have any questions, please contact your MAC at their toll-free number. That number is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/Medicare-FFS-Compliance-Programs/Review-Contractor-Directory-Interactive-Map/>

## DOCUMENT HISTORY

Date of Change	Description
August 18, 2018	Initial article released.

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