



Division of Medical Services

P.O. Box 1437, Slot S295, Little Rock, AR 72203-1437

P: 501.682.8292 F: 501.682.1197

MEMORANDUM

TO: Interested Persons and Providers

FROM: Elizabeth Pitman, Director, Division of Medical Services

DATE: November 12, 2021

SUBJ: COVID-19 Vaccinations for Home-Bound Medicaid Clients

As a part of the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act process, attached for your review and comment are proposed rule revisions.

Public comments must be submitted in writing at the above address or at the following email address: ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov Please note that public comments submitted in response to this notice are considered public documents. A public comment, including the commenter's name and any personal information contained within the public comment, will be made publicly available and may be seen by various people.

If you have any comments, please submit those comments in writing, no later than December 13, 2021.

NOTICE OF RULE MAKING

The Director of the Division of Medical Services of the Department of Human Services announces for a public comment period of thirty (30) calendar days a notice of rulemaking for the following proposed rule under one or more of the following chapters, subchapters, or sections of the Arkansas Code: §20-76-201, 20-77-107, & 25-10-129.

Effective March 1, 2022:

The Director of the Division of Medical Services (DMS) amends the DMS COVID-19 Response Manual to authorize home health providers and pharmacy providers to administer COVID-19 vaccination shots in a client's home or similar location. DMS outlines the requirements for those currently receiving home-based services as well as those who do not currently receive home based services to receive the COVID-19 vaccine in their home. Also, DMS requires specific documentation by the provider and provides directions for billing and payment of claims. These include covered vaccines, procedure codes, and rates. The rule automatically sunsets at the end of the Federal Public Health Emergency.

The proposed rule is available for review at the Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Rules Promulgation, 2nd floor Donaghey Plaza South Building, 7th and Main Streets, P. O. Box 1437, Slot S295, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437. You may also access and download the proposed rule at <https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/do-business-with-dhs/proposed-rules/>. Public comments must be submitted in writing at the above address or at the following email address: ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov. All public comments must be received by DHS no later than December 13, 2021. Please note that public comments submitted in response to this notice are considered public documents. A public comment, including the commenter's name and any personal information contained within the public comment, will be made publicly available and may be seen by various people.

A public hearing by remote access only through a Zoom webinar will be held on December 1, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. and public comments may be submitted at the hearing. Individuals can access this public hearing at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84119369838>. The webinar ID is **841 1936 9838**. If you would like the electronic link, "one-tap" mobile information, listening only dial-in phone numbers, or international phone numbers, please contact ORP at ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov.

If you need this material in a different format, such as large print, contact the Office of Rules Promulgation at 501-396-6428.

The Arkansas Department of Human Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act and is operated, managed, and delivers services without regard to religion, disability, political affiliation, veteran status, age, race, color, or national origin. 4502035775

Elizabeth Pitman, Director
Division of Medical Services

DMS COVID-19 RESPONSE MANUAL

TOC Needed – New Section

270.000 COVID-19 Vaccination Administration for Home-Bound Medicaid Clients

Division of Medical Services (DMS) is covering administration of COVID-19 vaccination shots for home-bound Medicaid clients through the end of the Federal Public Health Emergency. This section will affect Home Health and Pharmacy provider types, and the policies herein are in addition to current policies.

Authorized Providers

The following Arkansas Medicaid providers will be authorized to administer COVID-19 vaccinations in a Medicaid client's home or similar location:

- Home Health Providers (Provider Type 14); and
- Pharmacy Providers (Provider Type 07/PV)

Eligibility and Place of Service

The following eligibility and place of service requirements apply to this service for Home Health providers:

- For Medicaid clients who currently receive Home Health services:
 - If the Medicaid client is currently receiving Home Health services for prior medical services, the Home Health provider may bill the vaccination administration in addition to the Home Health visit.
 - A Home Health provider may not charge for a Home Health visit if the vaccine administration is the sole medical service provided.
 - Visits for Covid Vaccine administration will not count against the fifty-visit Home Health visit limit.
- For Medicaid clients who do not currently receive Home Health services:
 - Admission to the Home Health Services program is not required for visits that are solely to administer the COVID-19 vaccination.
 - Examples of Medicaid clients eligible for this service can include those who face barriers or challenges to obtaining a COVID-19 vaccination and who might not get vaccinated without this service being provided in their home by Medicaid Home Health providers. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) created an **infographic** to help Medicare providers understand the scope of this service, which Medicaid providers may find helpful.
 - This basis for eligibility must be documented by the Home Health provider.

Required Recordkeeping

All providers should maintain accurate records for auditing purposes.

For this program, Home Health or Pharmacy Providers are required to maintain at least the following documentation in their records.

- Eligibility: Home Health or Pharmacy providers must document the Medicaid client's eligibility for the Home Health service, including without limitation:
 - The client's clinical status; and

- The barriers faced by the client to get the vaccine outside the home.
- Clinical Information: Home Health or Pharmacy providers must:
 - Have and maintain a record of the physician order, vaccine administration, and how the vaccine was tolerated; and
 - Communicate vaccinations to the appropriate entity that will record vaccinations in the vaccine registry.

Billing Guidelines and Payment of Claims

- Single Medicaid Client: The claim for a single Medicaid client's home (or similar location) vaccine administration is limited to one (1) time per home or location per date of service (DOS). The timeframes between vaccination shots must be adhered to.
- Multiple Medicaid Clients: If the vaccination is being administered in a group-living location where fewer than ten (10) Medicaid clients reside, up to five (5) vaccine administration claims are allowed in that home or communal space location per DOS.
- Home Health and Pharmacy providers may file eligible claims for the vaccination doses included in this Official Notice for three-hundred and sixty-five (365) days from the DOS.

Covered Vaccinations, Procedure Codes, and Rates

The section applies to the first, second, and third doses of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines and the single-shot Johnson & Johnson vaccine and booster(s).

The reimbursement rate for vaccine administration fee is based on the DOS that the COVID-19 vaccine medicine is provided.

The effective date for **home administration** of COVID-19 vaccinations (all shots) and the procedure code that must be used is:

<u>Procedure Code</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Rate</u>
<u>M0201</u>	<u>Covid-19 vaccine administration inside a patient's home</u>	<u>November 11, 2021</u>	<u>\$35.50</u>

This procedure code must be reported **in addition to** the correct procedure code for the product and dose-specific Covid Vaccine medication administration procedure code.

Guidance for Home Health Vaccine Administration

The **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** and CMS issued guidelines to assist Home Health providers in administering in-home COVID-19 vaccinations:

- **Vaccinating Homebound Persons with COVID-19 Vaccine | CDC**
- **COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs for Healthcare Professionals | CDC**
- **Medicare COVID-19 Vaccine Shot Payment | CMS**

Official Notice for this allowed Service

| [Providers should see Official Notice ON-014-21 for information.](#)

MARKUP