



## Payment Policy

### Vaccines & Immunizations

#### Purpose

The purpose of this payment policy is to define how Minuteman Health (MHI) reimburses for vaccines and immunizations.

#### Applicable Plans

- MHI MA Plans
- MHI NH Plans

#### Definitions

A vaccine is a preparation of a weakened or dead pathogen that stimulates an immune response that can prevent infection or create resistance to an infection.

State supplied vaccines are vaccines that are available free from the state.

#### Requirements

MHI reimburses providers for covered immunization services (i.e. vaccine administration), including necessary supplies as noted below.

##### State Supplied Vaccines

MHI will not reimburse for State supplied vaccines, however MHI will pay the administration fee in accordance with the physician fee schedule. The provider is expected to get State supplied vaccines from the State. MHI expects providers to give the State supplied vaccines on the approved schedule (CDC and AAP).

To report vaccine immunization administration codes, the provider must follow CPT guidelines. The provider must use appropriate modifiers to report administration of state-supplied vaccines. Add-on codes must be billed on one line with the number of units noted.

When a significant, separately identifiable E&M service is performed in addition to administration of a vaccine, a claim for the E&M service may be reported with the appropriate E& M code in conjunction with Modifier 25.

### Work Place, College and Travel Vaccines

Vaccines administered as part of a workplace requirement will not be reimbursed by MHI; it is the responsibility of the workplace to provide these services.

Vaccines administered as part of a college requirement or for travel are reimbursed according to the member's benefit plan.

### Other Vaccines

MHI will cover non-State supplied vaccines for MHI members in the following circumstances:

1. The physician must bill for the vaccine using the approved J-code or CPT code (this allows vaccines to be considered a preventive service for High Deductible Health Plans).
2. The physician may purchase the vaccine through any supplier (as long as it is not State-supplied).
3. MHI will reimburse the physician using the MHI fee schedule which is based on Average Wholesale Price (AWP); this fee schedule is updated quarterly.
4. Payment for supplies designated by HCPCS codes shall be reimbursed at the MHI Fee Schedule. MHI will reimburse for vaccines administered at a clinic using the same guidelines listed above.

MHI does not reimburse for vaccines that are not approved by the FDA.

## **Authorization Requirements**

No authorization required for in-plan providers. Authorization required for out-of-plan providers.

## **Attachments**

None

## **Important Note About This Reimbursement Policy**

Providers are responsible for submission of accurate claims. All EDI claims must be submitted in accordance with HIPAA 5010 Standards and Paper claims must be submitted on either CMS1500 or CMS1450 (UB04) claim forms. MHI's reimbursement policy includes the use of Current Procedural Terminology (CPT<sup>®1</sup>), guidelines from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and other coding guidelines. Providers will be reimbursed based on the codes(s) that correctly describe the health care services provided.

MHI may use reasonable discretion in interpreting and applying this policy to health care services provided in a particular case. Further, the policy does not address all issues related to reimbursement for health care services provided to MHI enrollees. Other factors affecting reimbursement may supplement, modify or, in some cases, supersede this policy. These factors may include, but are not limited to, legislative mandates, the type of provider agreement and the terms of that agreement, the MHI Provider Manual, and/or the enrollee's benefit coverage documents.

MHI reserves the right to audit any provider and/or facility to ensure compliance with the guidelines stated in this payment policy in accordance with our provider review policy.

## Resources

American Medical Association, Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) and associated publications and services

MHI Provider Manual

## History

Updated 11/1/2015, 11/01/2016

1 CPT® is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association.