

ISSUE DATE May 30, 2023	EFFECTIVE DATE June 12, 2023	NUMBER 01-23-07, 05-23-05, 08-23-08, 09-23-06, 10-23-05, 24-23-06, 26-23-05, 30-23-04, 31-23-07, 33-23-06
SUBJECT Billing Updates for COVID-19 Vaccine Counseling Only Visits for Beneficiaries Under the Age of 21		BY  Sally A. Kozak, Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs

IMPORTANT REMINDER: All providers must revalidate the Medical Assistance (MA) enrollment of each service location every 5 years. Providers should log into PROMISE to check the revalidation dates of each service location and submit revalidation applications at least 60 days prior to the revalidation dates. Enrollment (revalidation) applications may be found at: <https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/PROMISE-Enrollment.aspx>.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to advise providers about billing updates for the provision of COVID-19 vaccine counseling only visits for beneficiaries under the age of 21 when a novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) vaccine is not administered.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all physicians, certified registered nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives, physician assistants, outpatient hospital-based clinics, independent medical/surgical clinics, home health agencies, ambulance providers, renal dialysis centers, psychiatric outpatient clinics, drug and alcohol outpatient clinics, and licensed pharmacies enrolled in the MA Program who may administer SARS-CoV-2 vaccines to MA beneficiaries in the Fee-for-Service (FFS) or managed care delivery systems. Providers rendering services to MA beneficiaries in the managed care delivery system should contact the appropriate managed care organization with any coding and billing questions.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

Section 9811 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) requires state Medicaid programs to cover COVID-19 vaccine administration without cost sharing through the last day of the first quarter that begins one year after the end of the public health emergency. CMS

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

The appropriate toll-free number for your provider type.

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs website at:

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Health%20Care%20for%20Providers/Contact-Information-for-Providers.aspx>.

interprets the ARP references to the administration of a COVID-19 vaccine to include COVID-19 vaccine counseling visits during which no SARS-CoV-2 vaccine is injected when these visits are covered for children under the age of 21 as part of the EPSDT benefit.

On September 23, 2022, MA Bulletin 01-22-12, "COVID-19 Vaccine Counseling Only Visits for Beneficiaries Under 21" was issued to advise providers that the Department would provide coverage of and payment for the provision of COVID-19 vaccine counseling only visits to beneficiaries under the age of 21 and/or their parents or caregivers when a SARS-CoV-2 vaccine is not administered when billed with procedure code 99401 and the U2 modifier.

CMS released a procedure code G0315, that can be billed for COVID-19 vaccine counseling only visits provided to MA beneficiaries under the age of 21 when no SARS-CoV-2 vaccine is administered. Although states are not required to utilize this procedure code, the Department has decided to add G3015 to the MA Program Fee Schedule.

PROCEDURE:

Effective for dates of service on and after June 12, 2023, MA providers in both the FFS and managed care delivery systems may use procedure code G0315 to bill for COVID-19 vaccine counseling only visits for MA beneficiaries under the age of 21 when provided by a qualified health professional who is authorized under state law to administer the SARS CoV-2 vaccine and a SARS-CoV-2 vaccine is not administered.

Procedure Code	Code Description	Fee
G0315	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19, ages under 21, 5-15 minutes time (This code is used for the Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit [EPSDT])	\$10.00

Attached is the fee schedule entitled, "MA Program Fee Schedule Update for COVID-19 Vaccine Counseling Only Visits for Beneficiaries Under the Age of 21, Effective June 12, 2023." The attachment identifies the procedure code, national code description, provider type, provider specialty, place of service, and MA fee for the procedure code for providers submitting MA FFS claims.

NOTE: Provider type 10, specialty 100 (physician assistant) is included because physician assistants can be listed as the rendering provider pursuant to MA Bulletin 01-22-05, 08-22-05, 09-22-04, 10-22-01, 31-22-05, entitled "Billing Procedure Update for Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants."

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/docs/Publications/Documents/FORMS%20AND%20PUBS%20OMAP/MAB2022010701.pdf>.

Effective June 11, 2023, the Department is end-dating procedure code 99401 with the U2 modifier from the MA Program Fee Schedule for the provision of COVID-19 vaccine counseling only visits.

COVID-19 vaccine counseling only visits may be provided in addition to another service. However, MA Providers may not bill COVID-19 vaccine counseling only visits when the SARS-CoV-2 vaccine is administered.

Additionally, COVID-19 vaccine counseling only visits may be provided via telemedicine with the use of Place of Service (POS) 02 (Telehealth Provided Other than in Patient's Home) or POS 10 (Telehealth Provided in Patient's Home).

For pharmacists providing COVID-19 vaccine counseling only visits in MA FFS, the MA Program does not make direct payments to licensed pharmacists. Pharmacies may submit an 837 Professional (837P) claim to the MA Program for the provision of vaccine counseling only visits by the pharmacist using the procedure code as identified above. The billing and rendering provider for the administration fee claim should be the MA-enrolled pharmacy's National Provider Identifier (NPI). An MA-enrolled prescriber NPI should be submitted in the referring provider field.

ATTACHMENT:

MA Program Fee Schedule Update for COVID-19 Vaccine Counseling Only Visits for Beneficiaries Under the Age of 21, Effective June 12, 2023

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Human Services Office of Medical Assistance Programs MA Program Fee Schedule Updates for COVID-19 Vaccine Counseling Only Visits for Beneficiaries Under the Age of 21, Effective June 12, 2023										
Procedure Code	Description	Provider Type	Specialty	Place of Service	Pricing Modifier	Info Modifier	MA Fee	Prior Auth	MA units	Limits
G0315	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19, ages under 21, 5-15 minutes time (This code is used for Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit [EPSDT])	01	183	02, 10, 22			\$10.00	No	per visit	once per day
G0315	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19, ages under 21, 5-15 minutes time (This code is used for Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit [EPSDT])	05	050, 051	02, 10, 12, 99			\$10.00	No	per visit	once per day
G0315	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19, ages under 21, 5-15 minutes time (This code is used for Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit [EPSDT])	08	082	02, 10, 49			\$10.00	No	per visit	once per day
G0315	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19, ages under 21, 5-15 minutes time (This code is used for Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit [EPSDT])	08	110	02, 10, 49			\$10.00	No	per visit	once per day
G0315	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19, ages under 21, 5-15 minutes time (This code is used for Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit [EPSDT])	08	184	02, 10, 57			\$10.00	No	per visit	once per day
G0315	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19, ages under 21, 5-15 minutes time (This code is used for Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit [EPSDT])	09	All	02, 10, 11, 12, 99			\$10.00	No	per visit	once per day
G0315	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19, ages under 21, 5-15 minutes time (This code is used for Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit [EPSDT])	10	100	02, 10, 11, 12, 99			\$10.00	No	per visit	once per day
G0315	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19, ages under 21, 5-15 minutes time (This code is used for Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit [EPSDT])	24	All	02, 10, 11, 99			\$10.00	No	per visit	once per day

G0315	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19, ages under 21, 5-15 minutes time (This code is used for Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit [EPSDT])	24	240, 247	02, 10, 12			\$10.00	No	per visit	once per day
G0315	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19, ages under 21, 5-15 minutes time (This code is used for Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit [EPSDT])	26	260, 261	02, 10, 12, 99			\$10.00	No	per visit	once per day
G0315	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19, ages under 21, 5-15 minutes time (This code is used for Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit [EPSDT])	30	300	02, 10, 12, 65			\$10.00	No	per visit	once per day
G0315	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19, ages under 21, 5-15 minutes time (This code is used for Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit [EPSDT])	31	All	02, 10, 11, 12, 99			\$10.00	No	per visit	once per day
G0315	Immunization counseling by a physician or other qualified health care professional for COVID-19, ages under 21, 5-15 minutes time (This code is used for Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Benefit [EPSDT])	33	335	02, 10, 11, 12, 99			\$10.00	No	per visit	once per day