

COVID-19 vaccine administration and certain monoclonal antibody treatments: cost-sharing, coding, and billing

At Blue Shield of California (Blue Shield) and Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan (Blue Shield Promise), we will continue to support the health, safety, and well-being of our members during this COVID-19 pandemic. We will keep you informed as you courageously provide care on the front lines during this challenging season.

Please check this section of the website periodically to stay informed. As changes in laws, mandates and business decisions occur, we will update this content to reflect the latest information. We will also continue to add announcements on the home page.

No member cost-sharing for administration of COVID-19 vaccines

In accordance with federal law, Blue Shield members are not financially responsible for a copayment, co-insurance or deductible for administration fees associated with receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. This cost-sharing waiver applies to all commercial HMO, POS, PPO, and EPO plan members who have Blue Shield coverage under any individual and family, small group, and large group plans, including self-funded plans.

The waiver also applies to all Medicare Advantage and Medicare Supplement plan members.

Consistent with existing policy for Blue Shield Promise Medi-Cal and Cal MediConnect members, member cost-sharing does not apply.

Cost of COVID-19 vaccine

There is no cost for the COVID-19 vaccine to providers who are enrolled with the federal government program to receive the free vaccine distribution. Where applicable, coding and billing Blue Shield for reimbursement will apply **only to the cost for administration of the vaccine.** Please carefully review the information below to understand the details for coding and billing for those services.

Financial responsibility for administration of the COVID-19 vaccines

Claims for **vaccine administration** may be submitted, when Blue Shield is financially responsible, using the codes listed below.

Code	CPT ¹ Short Descriptor	Labeler Name	Vaccine/Procedure Name	Effective Dates
0001A	ADM SARSCOV2 30MCG/0.3ML 1ST	Pfizer	Pfizer-Biontech Covid-19 Vaccine Administration – First Dose	12/11/2020 – TBD
0002A	ADM SARSCOV2 30MCG/0.3ML 2ND	Pfizer	Pfizer-Biontech Covid-19 Vaccine Administration – Second Dose	12/11/2020 – TBD
0011A	ADM SARSCOV2 100MCG/0.5ML1ST	Moderna	Moderna Covid-19 Vaccine Administration – First Dose	12/18/2020 – TBD
0012A	ADM SARSCOV2 100MCG/0.5ML2ND	Moderna	Moderna Covid-19 Vaccine Administration – Second Dose	12/18/2020 – TBD
0031A	ADM SARSCOV2 VAC AD26 .5ML	Janssen	Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine Administration	2/27/21 - TBD

The information in the chart below is also available on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) [website.?](#)

Financial responsibility of delegated providers for COVID-19 vaccines

In order to support the efforts of our network HMO IPA/medical groups and reduce administrative burden, Blue Shield made a business decision to assume financial responsibility for the administrative cost of COVID-19 vaccines, effective December 11, 2020.

- This business decision applies to members with commercial HMO plan coverage and separates this cost from administration of other types of vaccines.
- HMO IPA/medical groups will continue to be financially responsible for administration and drug costs for other vaccines in accordance with their provider agreement with Blue Shield. In cases where Blue Shield already carries financial responsibility for preventive vaccines and administration of the vaccine, there are no changes, and billing should continue to follow the guidelines on page two.

If your IPA/medical group has already submitted claims for COVID-19 vaccine administration cost for Blue Shield HMO commercial plan members and those claims were denied prior to this business decision being made, please contact your Blue Shield Provider Relations representative immediately to receive assistance in obtaining reimbursement for those claims.

Financial responsibility for administration of the COVID-19 vaccines, cont'd.

Medicare Advantage, Cal MediConnect and Medicare Supplement plan members for COVID-19 vaccines

All costs for administration or any other associated costs for the COVID-19 vaccination for Medicare members, as stated in the guidelines available at the CMS [website](#), should be billed directly to CMS for fee-for-service (FFS) reimbursement.

Medi-Cal plan members

Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has carved out the COVID-19 vaccines and associated administration fees from the Medi-Cal managed care delivery system and will reimburse providers under Medi-Cal FFS policy for medical, pharmacy, and outpatient claims. For additional information, please visit DHCS' [website](#).

A DHCS [announcement](#) on March 3, 2021³ stated that Medi-Cal can now receive claims for most medical and outpatient claims. Please review the announcement for details.

Financial Responsibility for administration of monoclonal antibody treatment

There is no cost for the COVID-19 vaccine to providers who are enrolled with the federal government program to receive the free monoclonal antibodies distribution.

Claims for administration (only) of monoclonal antibody treatments for **commercial plan members** may be submitted, when Blue Shield is financially responsible, using the codes listed below.

The information in the chart below is also available on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) [website](#).²

Code	CPT Short Descriptor	Labeler Name	Vaccine/Procedure Name	Effective Dates
Q0239	bamlanivimab-xxxx	Eli Lilly	Injection, bamlanivimab, 700 mg	11/10/2020 – TBD
M0239	bamlanivimab-xxxx infusion	Eli Lilly	Intravenous infusion, bamlanivimab-xxxx, includes infusion and post administration monitoring	11/10/2020 – TBD
Q0243	casirivimab and imdevimab	Regeneron	Injection, casirivimab and imdevimab, 2400 mg	11/21/2020 – TBD
M0243	casirivi and imdevi infusion	Regeneron	intravenous infusion, casirivimab and imdevimab includes infusion and post administration monitoring	11/21/2020 – TBD
Q0245	bamlanivimab and etesevima	Eli Lilly	Injection, bamlanivimab and etesevima, 2100 mg	02/09/2021 – TBD
M0245	bamlan and etesev infusion	Eli Lilly	intravenous infusion, bamlanivimab and etesevima, includes infusion and post administration monitoring	02/09/2021 – TBD

Financial Responsibility for administration of monoclonal antibody treatment, cont'd.

Commercial HMO and PPO members

Contracted providers/provider organizations should bill Blue Shield directly for administration of the COVID-19 monoclonal antibody treatments.

Medicare members

- Member cost-sharing for administration of COVID-19 monoclonal antibody treatments is waived for Medicare Advantage and Medicare Supplement plan members, in accordance with the CMS requirement.

All costs for administration or any other associated costs for the monoclonal antibody treatments for Medicare members, as stated in the guidelines available at the CMS [website](#), should be billed directly to CMS for fee-for-service (FFS) reimbursement.

Medi-Cal members

- Consistent with existing policy for Blue Shield Promise Medi-Cal and Cal MediConnect members, member cost-sharing does not apply.
- A DHCS [announcement](#) on March 3, 2021³ stated that Medi-Cal can now receive claims for most medical and outpatient claims. Please review the announcement for details.

¹CPT is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association

²[COVID-19 Vaccines and Monoclonal Antibodies | CMS](#)

³[Medi-Cal NewsFlash: COVID-19 Vaccine Administration: Preparing to Submit Medical and Outpatient Claims \(March 3, 2021\)](#)

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