



Reimbursement Policy	
Subject: Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program	
Policy Number: G-05022	Policy Section: Prevention
Last Approval Date: 11/04/2022	Effective Date: 04/20/2018

**** Visit our provider website for the most current version of our reimbursement policies. If you are using a printed version of this policy, please verify the information by going to <https://providers.anthem.com/va>. ****

Disclaimer

These policies serve as a guide to assist you in accurate claims submissions and to outline the basis for reimbursement by HealthKeepers, Inc. if the service is covered for Anthem HealthKeepers Plus members. The determination that a service, procedure, item, etc. is covered under a member’s benefit plan is not a determination that you will be reimbursed. Services must meet authorization and medical necessity guidelines appropriate to the procedure and diagnosis as well as to the member’s state of residence. You must follow proper billing and submission guidelines. You are required to use industry standard, compliant codes on all claim submissions. Services should be billed with CPT® codes, HCPCS codes, and/or revenue codes. The codes denote the services and/or procedures performed. The billed codes are required to be fully supported in the medical record and/or office notes. Unless otherwise noted within the policy, our policies apply to both participating and nonparticipating providers and facilities.

If appropriate coding/billing guidelines or current reimbursement policies are not followed, HealthKeepers, Inc. may:

- Reject or deny the claim.
- Recover and/or recoup claim payment.

Reimbursement policies are developed based on nationally accepted industry standards and coding principles. These policies may be superseded by mandates in provider, state, federal, or CMS contracts and/or requirements. System logic or setup may prevent the loading of policies into the claims platforms in the same manner as described; however, HealthKeepers, Inc. strives to minimize these variations.

HealthKeepers, Inc. reserves the right to review and revise our policies periodically when necessary. When there is an update, we will publish the most current policy to our provider website.

Policy

HealthKeepers, Inc. allows reimbursement of the administration fee for vaccines provided by the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program for eligible members up to the age of 19 unless provider, state, federal, or CMS contracts and/or requirements indicate otherwise. Medicaid

<https://providers.anthem.com/va>

providers who participate in the VFC program and immunize children shall comply with all of the reporting requirements and procedures.

Reimbursement is based on the fee schedule or contracted/negotiated rate of the vaccine administration up to maximum fee limits set by the CDC. HealthKeepers, Inc. does not reimburse providers for the vaccine serum as it is provided free-of-charge through the VFC program.

Although providers shall only be reimbursed for the administration of the vaccine, serum code(s) must be included on the claim to meet regulatory and HEDIS® reporting requirements that members are receiving the proper immunization(s). Claims submitted without applicable serum and administration codes may be rejected and/or denied.

Reimbursement of office visits

Vaccine administrations are separately reimbursable expenses from well-child exams or office visits. When the vaccine administration is the only service performed, HealthKeepers, Inc. does not allow reimbursement for a minimal office visit.

Non-VFC members/vaccines

For members not eligible or for vaccines not provided under the VFC program, HealthKeepers, Inc. reimburses providers for the administration and serum based on the fee schedule or contracted/negotiated rate.

Reimbursement during state supply shortages

During documented supply shortages within applicable state VFC programs, HealthKeepers, Inc. will reimburse providers for serum(s) based on the fee schedule or contracted/negotiated rate. HealthKeepers, Inc. shall develop internal processes and procedures to track state VFC programs and CDC information to monitor vaccine shortages.

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Related Coding

Standard correct coding applies

Policy History

11/04/2022	Review approved: minor language updates; updated minimal office visit definition
04/20/2018	Review approved and effective: policy language updated
09/15/2016	Review approved: policy language update
07/13/2015	Review approved and effective: definition section updated; policy template updated
11/01/2013	Initial approval and effective

References and Research Materials

This policy has been developed through consideration of the following:

- CMS
- Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services policies

- State contracts
- State Medicaid
- CDC
- Social Security Act, Section 1928: Program for Distribution of Pediatric Vaccines
- State VFC programs

Definitions

Minimal Office Visit	Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of an established patient who may not require the presence of a physician or other qualified healthcare professional
General Reimbursement Policy Definitions	

Related Policies and Materials

Modifier Usage
