Medicare Covers the COVID-19 Vaccine

Adults 65 and older with severe chronic medical conditions are at higher risk for more serious illness from coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). It's important to talk to your doctor or local health department about getting the vaccine to protect yourself and your loved ones from COVID-19.

You pay nothing for the COVID-19 vaccine and its administration. If you're 65 and older or at high risk, Medicare covers the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine booster shot at least 6 months after you complete your second dose of the vaccine series, or the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine booster shot after 2 or more months. You can only choose which vaccine you receive for your **booster**—get a booster from the same COVID-19 vaccine that you originally got, or choose a different one.

If you're immunocompromised (for example, you've had an organ transplant and are at a higher risk for infections and other diseases), Medicare will cover an additional dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at least 28 days after your second dose,.

Note: Don't mix vaccines for your third dose. If your first 2 doses were Pfizer, your third dose should also be Pfizer. If your first 2 doses were Moderna, your third dose should also be Moderna.

When you go to get your booster shot, be sure to bring your **red**, **white**, and **blue** Medicare card so your health care provider can bill Medicare. You'll need your Medicare card, even if you're enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan. Log into (or create) your secure account on Medicare.gov to print an official copy of your card.

If you have Medicare and face challenges getting your vaccine at a location away from home (for example, because you have a disability), Medicare will pay a doctor or other provider to give you the COVID-19 vaccine in your home.

If you paid a fee or got a bill for a COVID-19 vaccine

- Check the receipts and statements you get from your provider for any mistakes.
- Call your provider's office to ask about any charges you think are wrong. The person you speak to may help you better understand the services you got, or realize there was a billing error.
- Review your "Medicare Summary Notice" for errors if you have Original Medicare. Report anything suspicious to Medicare by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.

If you paid a fee or got a bill for a COVID-19 vaccine (continued)

- Review your "Explanation of Benefits" if you have other coverage, like a Medicare Advantage Plan. Report anything suspicious to your insurer.

If you think your provider incorrectly charged you for the COVID-19 vaccine, ask them for a refund. If you think your provider charged you for an office visit or other fee, but the only service you got was a COVID-19 vaccine, report them to the Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services by calling 1-800-HHS-TIPS or visiting tips.hhs.gov.

Protect yourself from fraud

- Keep your personal and financial information safe. Don't share your information if someone calls, texts, or emails you promising access to a vaccine for a fee.
- Beware of scammers who ask for money or your Medicare Number to give you the COVID-19 vaccine or a place on a vaccine waiting list.
- You can't pay to put your name on a list to get the vaccine.
- You can't pay to get access to a vaccine.

Learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine

- Visit Medicare.gov/medicare-coronavirus for more information on Medicare's coverage of the COVID-19 vaccine and other related services. Or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.
- Visit CDC.gov/coronavirus.
- Contact your local health department at CDC.gov/publichealthgateway/ healthdirectories/index.html.
- Visit Medicare.gov/coverage/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-vaccine.

This product was produced at U.S taxpayer expense.

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