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| Provider Policy Manual | Current: | —12/01/06 |
| Section: Immunization | Section: 77.04 | |
| Subject: Vaccines for Children | Pages: 1 | |
| | Cross Reference: | |

In an effort to increase the immunization levels of Mississippi's children by two (2) years of age, the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) and the Mississippi Division of Medicaid (DOM) implemented the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program on October 1, 1994.

~~VFC provides vaccines at no cost to participating health care providers. This allows children aged 18 years and under to receive free vaccines. Eligible children include children who are enrolled in Medicaid and children without health insurance. Native American and Alaskan Native children and children with health insurance that does not cover vaccines (underinsured) are also eligible. Underinsured children are eligible to receive VFC vaccines at Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) or Rural Health Centers (RHC). Providers may receive VFC vaccine and administer this vaccine at no charge if they are enrolled in the program and agree to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended immunization schedule.~~

VFC is a nationally sponsored program that provides vaccines at no cost to participating health care providers, thus allowing for eligible children aged eighteen (18) and under to receive free vaccines. Eligible children include children who are enrolled in Medicaid, children without health insurance, and Native American and Alaskan Native children. Children who have health insurance that does not cover immunizations (underinsured) are also eligible, if they obtain the vaccines from a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or Rural Health Center (RHC).

Providers may receive VFC vaccine and administer this vaccine at no charge if they are enrolled in the program and agree to follow the most current recommended childhood immunization schedule developed and endorsed by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP).

The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) is the lead agency in administering the VFC Program. Enrollment and vaccine order forms are available through the MSDH Immunization Division. Questions regarding enrollment should be directed to the VFC Coordinator at the MSDH.

~~For children enrolled in Medicaid, the DOM covers the administration of each vaccine dose at a reimbursement fee of \$10.00 per dose rate set by the Division. When multiple doses vaccines are given on the same visit, Medicaid will reimburse for each dose the administration of each vaccine. When vaccines are given in conjunction with an Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) screening visit or a physician office visit, the administration fee of \$10.00 will also be reimbursed for beneficiaries 18 years and under, in addition to the reimbursement for the visit. DOM will reimburse for the administration of the vaccine in addition to the reimbursement for the visit.~~

~~Providers must supply appropriate coding on the HCFA-1500 claim form in order to receive reimbursement for the administration of each immunization from the VFC stock.~~

The Division of Medicaid reimburses for the administration of vaccines ONLY if the vaccines are obtained from the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program through the Mississippi State Department of Health. The DOM does not pay for the administration of vaccines obtained from other sources.

~~EPSDT VFC providers should use the most current recommended childhood immunization schedule developed and endorsed by the ACIP, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and the American Academy of Family Physicians.~~

Claims must be submitted on the CMS-1500 claim form. Providers must use appropriate codes in order to receive reimbursement.