

All MCOs: Coverage of COVID-19 Booster Doses of Moderna and Johnson and Johnson Vaccines

Background:

On October 20, 2021, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) amended the emergency use authorizations (EUAs) for the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine and the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine use of a booster dose in specific individuals.

Key Details:

The FDA amendments to the EUAs allow for the use of a single booster dose as follows:

- The use of a single booster dose of the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine that may be administered at least 6 months after completion of the primary series to individuals:
 - 65 years of age and older
 - 18 through 64 years of age at high risk of severe COVID-19
 - 18 through 64 years of age with frequent institutional or occupational exposure to SARS-CoV-2
- The use of a single booster dose of the Janssen (Johnson and Johnson) COVID-19 vaccine may be administered at least 2 months after completion of the single-dose primary regimen to individuals 18 years of age and older.
- The use of each of the available COVID-19 vaccines as a heterologous (or "mix and match") booster dose in eligible individuals following completion of primary vaccination with a different available COVID-19 vaccine.

Action:

Starting no later than November 15, 2021, MCOs must process pharmacy claims for Moderna and Johnson and Johnson COVID-19 vaccine booster doses as allowed by the

amended EUA. MCOs must allow pharmacies to submit claims with dates of service back to October 20, 2021.

MCOs must direct their pharmacy providers to submit Moderna COVID-19 vaccine and Johnson and Johnson COVID-19 vaccine booster dose claims using the submission clarification code (SCC) value of "10" ("Meets Plan Limitations"). HHSC will be ready to accept pharmacy encounters starting October 27, 2021. MCOs must resubmit any Moderna COVID-19 vaccine or Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine booster dose encounter data with this SCC value with dates of service before October 27, 2021.

HHSC will cover the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine as non-risk. HHSC will continue to follow the Medicare rate for vaccine administration.

Additional Information:

Beginning October 27, 2021, HHSC will accept Medicaid fee-for-service (FFS) pharmacy claims for the Moderna and Johnson and Johnson vaccine booster doses with an effective date of October 20, 2021.