



Medicare Part B Coverage of Pneumococcal Vaccinations

Related CR Release Date: March 16, 2023

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Effective Date: October 19, 2022

Related Change Request (CR) Number: [CR 13118](#)

Implementation Date: April 17, 2023

Related CR Transmittal Number: R11905BP

Related CR Title: Revisions to Medicare Part B Coverage of Pneumococcal Vaccinations for the Medicare Policy Manual Chapter 15, Section 50.4.4.2

Affected Providers

- Physicians
- Suppliers
- Other providers billing Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for vaccinations they provide to Medicare patients

Action Needed

Make sure your billing staff knows about:

- Updates to the Part B coverage for pneumococcal vaccinations

Background

Section 1861(s)(10)(A) of the [Social Security Act](#) and regulations at [42 CFR 410.57](#) authorize Part B coverage for pneumococcal vaccine and its administration. CMS routinely follows the vaccination guidance of the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) when updating coverage for pneumococcal vaccinations. ACIP updated their recommendations in 2021 due to the availability of new vaccines and again in 2022 to provide further detail and clarification.

Effective October 19, 2022, we updated Part B requirements to align with ACIP recommendations. While much of the previous recommendation remains unchanged, for adults age 65 years or older who completed their vaccine series with both PCV13 and PPSV23, but got no PPSV23 at age 65 or older, ACIP recommends either 1 dose of PCV20 at least 5 years after the last pneumococcal vaccine dose or completion of the recommended PPSV23 series as previously recommended.

Shared clinical decision-making is recommended regarding administration of PCV20 for adults

age 65 years or over who completed their vaccine series with both PCV13 and PPSV23, and PPSV was received at age 65 or older. If you decide to administer PCV20, a dose of PCV20 is recommended at least 5 years after the last pneumococcal vaccine dose

Adults age 65 years or older and adults age 19-64 years with certain underlying medical conditions or other risk factors who only got PCV13 are recommended to get a dose of PCV20 at least 1 year after the PCV13 dose or PPSV23 as previously recommended to complete their pneumococcal vaccine series.

ACIP recommends that adults age 19-64 years with certain underlying medical conditions or other risk factors who got both PCV13 and PPSV23 with incomplete vaccination status are recommended to complete their pneumococcal vaccine series by getting either a dose of PCV20 at least 5 years after the last pneumococcal vaccine dose or PPSV23 as previously recommended.

More Information

We issued CR 13118 to your MAC as the official instruction for this change.

For more information, [find your MAC's website](#).

Document History

Date of Change	Description
March 17, 2023	Initial article released.

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