Medicare Codes Flu Shots: Q2035, Q2036, Q2037, Q2038

New Medicare Influenza Vaccine Q Codes for 2011

Effective January 1, 2011- the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will no longer recognize and no longer reimburse CPT Code 90658 Influenza Virus Vaccine, Split Virus for flu shots. CMS has established five separate influenza vaccine HCPCS codes to distinguish between the brand-names of influenza vaccines for governmental tracking purposes. Make sure to use these new codes in your medical billing.

Although the new Medicare codes distinguish between vaccine brands for Medicare, the HCPCS code G0008 Administration of Influenza Virus Vaccine must still be used for the administration of the flu vaccine for Medicare patients.

The New HCPCS Medicare Flu Vaccine Codes

Q2035 Afluria Vaccine:

Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use (Afluria)

Q2036 Flulaval Vaccine:

Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use (Flulaval)

Q2037 Fluvirin Vaccine:

Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use (Fluvirin)

Q2038 Fluzone Vaccine:

Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use (Fluzone)

Q2039 NOS (Not Otherwise Specified) Vaccine:

Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use (Not Otherwise Specified)

Reimbursement Rates

The national average for Medicare payment allowance may vary by geographical location, and you will need to check the CMS Fee Schedule for your correct reimbursement rate. HCPCS codes Q2035 & Q2039 do not have national payment limits and will be determined by the local Medicare carrier.

National allowables for the Q2036 is $7.439, Q2037 is $13.253, and Q2038 is $12.593.

Please refer to the CMS Physician Fee Schedule at:

http://www.cms.gov/PhysicianFeeSched/01_overview.asp

Additional information can also be found at:

http://www.cms.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM7234.pdf

For a video on Medicare flu shot coding go to: What are the Medicare Flu Shot Codes?

About the Author

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Manny Oliverez, CPC, is a 20-year healthcare veteran and the CEO and co-founder of Capture Billing, a medical billing services company located outside of Washington, D.C. He teaches the nation's physicians, administrators, and medical practices how to maximize billing and revenue cycle management processes. Manny also frequently posts articles and videos on his award-winning healthcare blog. For more information on Manny and his company, please visit his website, or call (703)327-1800. And if you're on LinkedIn, please look for him there too. **READ MORE**

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