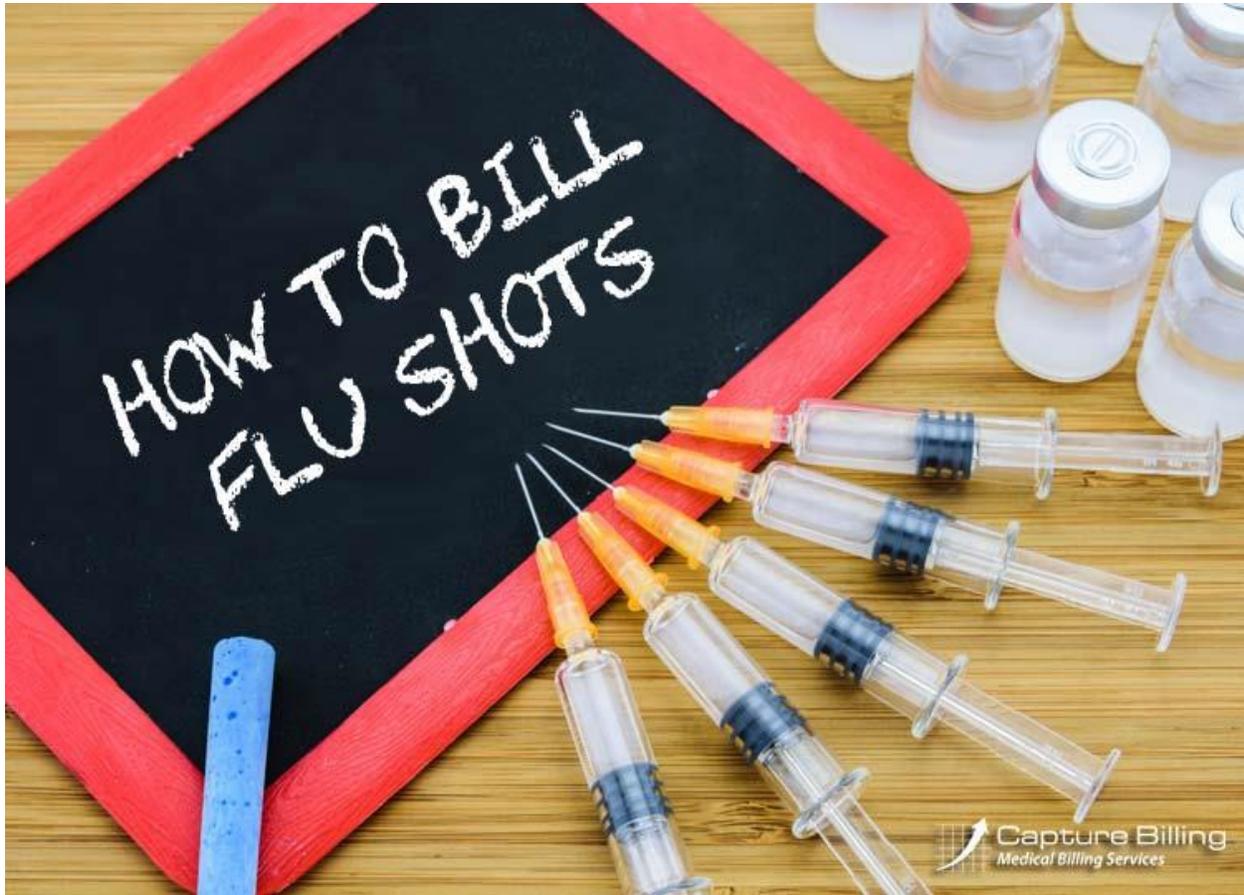


## Billing Flu Shots to Medicare and Commercial Insurance Companies



Since it is now flu season I have been getting a lot of questions on [how to bill flu shots](#) to commercial insurance companies and Medicare. The codes used for a particular vaccine will vary depending on intramuscular vs. [intranasal use](#), age of patient, formulation, preservative free, and split or live virus. If you are unsure of what code to use I suggest looking at the package information that came with the vaccine. Usually you can find the code on the packaging, and if you can't find it in the documentation then call the supplier.

This is how most of our primary care practices bill for flu shots. Your situation may be different so make sure to check all the influenza vaccine codes 90654-90668 and use the appropriate code for the vaccine administered to the patient.

## Commercial Insurance Carriers

**90471** *Immunization administration (includes percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, or intramuscular injections); 1 vaccine (single or combination vaccine/toxoid)*

**90658** *Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use*

## Medicare

1. **G0008** *Administration of Influenza Virus Vaccine*
2. **Q203~~x~~** *Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use*

Keep in mind that there are several codes for the flu vaccine when you bill for Medicare flu shots. The code you use is dependent on the manufacturer of the vaccine. Replace the code above with the correct vaccine code below.

Here is the list of the Medicare Flu Vaccine codes. Choose the code based on the manufacture:

1. **Q2034 Agriflu Vaccine:** *Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, for intramuscular use (Agriflu)*
2. **Q2035 Afluria Vaccine:** *Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use (Afluria)*
3. **Q2036 Flulaval Vaccine:** *Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use (Flulaval)*
4. **Q2037 Fluvirin Vaccine:** *Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use (Fluvirin)*
5. **Q2038 Fluzone Vaccine:** *Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use (Fluzone)*

- 6. 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)

Check out the short video we made about coding for the Medicare flu shot [here](#).

## Pediatric Billing



If a child is under the age of 9 and has not previously received a flu shot, then usually two shots are given one month apart. After the initial series, in subsequent years only one shot is needed.

When billing for the initial flu shot keep in mind that insurance should pay for both the initial flu shot and the flu shot given 30 days later. Be sure to follow up with the insurance companies if reimbursement is not issued for the second shot of the initial series. Typically these are denied but can be paid with a simple appeal or phone call correcting the denial.

**90471** *Immunization administration (includes percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, or intramuscular injections); 1 vaccine (single or combination vaccine/toxoid)*

Use the age appropriate codes as needed.

**90657** *Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to children 6-35 months of age, for intramuscular use*

**Or**

**90658** *Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use*

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## About the Author



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Manny Oliverrez, 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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