

Arizona Chapter

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American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



AzAAP Wants Members to Be Vaccine-Ready

Dear Members,

As our state prepares to distribute COVID-19 vaccines, AzAAP wants members to be vaccine-ready. We will continue to send any information and resources on the distribution plan, as well as on provider enrollment, onboarding and vaccine administration. We encourage all members who intend to administer COVID-19 vaccine to complete their onboarding now to avoid delays. Thank you for everything you are doing to keep your patients and families safe against COVID-19 infection.

Provider Brown Bag Webinar

The ADHS Arizona Immunization Program Office is hosting a brown bag lunchtime webinar for providers who are onboarding with ADHS to administer COVID-19 vaccines. Participants will learn about COVID-19 vaccine information resources. Although they may not have answers to all questions, the intent is to show where future resources will be located. Thank you for partnering with ADHS to administer COVID-19 vaccines.

Click this link to join the webinar on Tuesdays at 12pm: <https://meet.google.com/ixr-cpnx-bpp>



Be Vaccine-Ready!

PANDEMIC PROVIDER ONBOARDING

Providers have been crucial in the fight against COVID-19. We want to be prepared and engage our partners now, so we are ready when vaccines are available* for distribution in Arizona.

COVID-19 vaccinators will need to be enrolled with **AHCCCS** in order to be able to bill the vaccine administration fee for AHCCCS beneficiaries. [Enroll with AHCCCS here.](#)

Both VFC and non-VFC providers who would like to administer future COVID-19 vaccines must complete the **Pandemic Provider Onboarding survey forms.**

This is to:

- 1) ensure the signatory provider knows the requirements, and
- 2) ensure the facility is able to meet each requirement

Staff from potential sites must complete all surveys and the Provider is required to sign the agreement.

The Arizona Immunization Program Office (AIPO) will review and reach out with any follow-up questions.

You will receive an email when forms are added to the onboarding tool.

AIPO must approve all documents before the facility is able to order future potential pandemic vaccines.

ONBOARD NOW!

This process takes time as AIPO will need to add or update providers in ASIS and review requirements.

Providers can go to [AIPO Train](#) to learn how to order, receive, store, administer, document, and account for pandemic vaccines in ASIS.

To begin onboarding, go to: <http://redcap.link/onboard>

*AIPO does not know exact date when COVID-19 vaccines will become available.

Be Vaccine-Ready!

Providers have been crucial in the fight against COVID-19. Please see the attached flyer to prepare for when vaccines are available for distribution in Arizona. Enroll with AHCCCS in order to be able to bill the vaccine administration fee for AHCCCS beneficiaries, and complete the Pandemic Provider Onboarding survey forms.

[Learn More](#)

PRESS RELEASE: AMA Announces Vaccine-specific CPT Codes for Coronavirus Immunizations

(Nov. 10) The American Medical Association (AMA) today published an update to the [Current Procedural Terminology \(CPT®\)](#) code set that includes new vaccine-specific codes to report immunizations for the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2).

Working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the CPT Editorial Panel has approved a unique CPT code for each of two coronavirus vaccines as well as administration codes unique to each such vaccine. The new CPT codes clinically distinguish each coronavirus vaccine for better tracking, reporting and analysis that supports data-driven planning and allocation. Importantly, these CPT codes are available prior to the public availability of the vaccines to facilitate updating of health care electronic systems across the U.S.

“An effective national immunization program is key to bringing the coronavirus pandemic to an end,” said AMA President Susan R. Bailey, M.D. “Correlating each coronavirus vaccine with its own unique CPT code provides analytical advantages to help track, allocate and optimize resources as an immunization program ramps up in the United States.”

For quick reference, the new Category I CPT codes and long descriptors for the vaccine products are:

- 91300 Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 30 mcg/0.3mL dosage, diluent reconstituted, for intramuscular use
- 91301 Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 100 mcg/0.5mL dosage, for intramuscular use

In accordance with the new vaccine-specific product CPT codes, the CPT Editorial Panel has worked with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to create new vaccine administration codes that are both distinct to each coronavirus vaccine and the specific dose in the required schedule. This level of specificity is a first for vaccine CPT codes, but offers the ability to track each vaccine dose, even when the vaccine product is not reported (e.g. when the vaccine may be given to the patient for free). These CPT codes report the actual work of administering the vaccine, in addition to all necessary counseling provided to patients or caregivers and updating the electronic record.

For quick reference, the new vaccine administration CPT codes and long descriptors are:

- 0001A Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 30 mcg/0.3mL dosage, diluent reconstituted; first dose
- 0002A Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 30 mcg/0.3mL dosage, diluent reconstituted; second dose
- 0011A Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 100 mcg/0.5mL dosage; first dose
- 0012A Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 100 mcg/0.5mL dosage; second dose

All the new vaccine-specific CPT codes published in today's update will be available for use and effective upon each new coronavirus vaccine receiving Emergency Use Authorization or approval from the Food and Drug Administration. In addition to the long descriptors, short and medium descriptors for the new vaccine-specific CPT codes can be accessed on the [AMA website](#), along with several other recent modifications to the CPT code set that have helped streamline the public health response to the SAR-CoV-2 virus and the COVID-19 disease.

Changes to the CPT code set are considered through an open editorial process managed by the CPT Editorial Panel that collects broad input from the health care community and beyond to ensure CPT content reflects the coding demands of digital health, precision medicine, augmented intelligence, and other aspects of a modern health care system. This rigorous editorial process keeps the CPT code set current with contemporary medical science and technology so it can fulfill its vital role as the trusted language of medicine today and the code to its future.

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Questions on CPT coding and content should be directed to the [CPT Network](#), the authoritative source for CPT coding answers. Also, consult the AMA online library of [COVID-19 CPT coding and guidance](#).

NEWS RELEASE: Maricopa County Prepares for Distribution of COVID-19 Vaccine

(Dec. 7) Maricopa County is taking a whole community approach as it prepares for the arrival of the first COVID-19 vaccine.

"We have been developing detailed, multi-pronged plans in partnership with local hospital systems, fire departments, law enforcement, emergency management and other agencies across the County to prepare for a quick and efficient distribution of the vaccine as soon as it becomes available," said Marcy Flanagan, director of Maricopa County Public Health Department.

At this time, vaccine manufacturers Pfizer and Moderna have applied for emergency use authorization (EUA); however, no vaccine has been granted either full or emergency use authorization. While there are still many unknown factors that could impact when and how much vaccine will become available; a vaccine could be approved and ready for distribution as early as mid-December.

Vaccine supply will be limited at first, so distribution will be prioritized according to CDC guidelines. The CDC has broadly defined the populations that are eligible in multiple tiers. Priority will be given to Phase 1A, which is comprised of frontline healthcare workers, including Emergency Medical Services, who are at the highest risk of exposure, as well as residents of long-term care facilities.

“By vaccinating these frontline workers first, we are helping to ensure that our healthcare system will stay strong with needed staffing and in turn, our family members, friends, colleagues and others in our community will be able to receive the healthcare they need when they need it most.”

The first dose of the vaccine will be distributed at five regional Points of Dispensing (PODs) across the county in conjunction with Abrazo Health, Banner Health, Banner Del Web, Dignity Health and Honor Health over a distribution period of several weeks. The vaccine will require a second dose, which will be administered three to four weeks later.

“We have not received all of the details yet, but our plans by design are flexible and we will be ready to go when the vaccine arrives,” Flanagan said.

