

Provider BULLETIN

August 27, 2018

For Coders and Billers: Billing for <u>Part B</u> Vaccines and Immunizations

Influenza, pneumococcal and **hepatitis B** immunizations fall into a different benefit category than other immunizations and vaccines categories reported for **Medicare** Part B. When any one of these three vaccines are given, the administration is reported using the HCPCS G series codes.

- Influenza G0008
- Pneumococcal G0009
- Hepatitis B G0010

What do coders need to know?

It's easy to bill if you only administer one or a combination of the three G code (G0008, G0009 and G0010) Part B vaccines on the same date. However, what do you do if another vaccine or immunization is administered at that same encounter?

Administration codes are typically identified as "initial" or "subsequent." Only one "initial" service should be indicated when administering vaccines, depending on the route by which it is given.

- 1. Consider "subsequent admission codes."
 - It may be appropriate to bill any of the three G series codes and "subsequent administration" CPT codes 90472 (each additional vaccine, single or combination vaccine/toxoid) or 90474 (each additional vaccine, single or combination vaccine/toxoid) for any additional vaccines given. In this situation, a modifier is not needed.
- 2. Consider adding an appropriate modifier for two "Initial administration" codes.
 - Medicare's National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) indicates that the three G codes listed above are "mutually exclusive" to CPT codes 90471 (*Immunization administration, includes percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous or intramuscular injections, one vaccine, single or combination vaccine/toxoid*) and 90473 (*Immunization administration by intranasal or oral route, one vaccine, single or combination vaccine/toxoid*). Mutually exclusive means that the two codes are not typically billed together.
 - Under some circumstances, NCCI makes provisions for mutually exclusive code pairs to be billed together if an appropriate modifier is used to bypass the NCCI edit. All of the NCCI edits are available <u>online</u>, allowing easy reference for coders.

• If the **90471** or **90473** code is billed with any G series code (G0008, G0009 and G0010) Part B vaccines/immunizations without the appropriate modifier, the claim will be denied.

Claims submitted for Part B vaccine administration that do not follow the NCCI guidance above will be denied.