

# Navigating Immunization Reimbursement Pathways

## National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC) Standards for Adult Immunization Practice<sup>1</sup>

Recommendation from a healthcare professional is the strongest predictor of whether patients get vaccinated.



**1**  
ASSESS  
immunization status  
of all patients at every  
clinical encounter



**2**  
Strongly  
RECOMMEND  
vaccines that  
patients need



**3**  
ADMINISTER  
needed vaccines or  
REFER patients to a  
vaccination provider



**4**  
DOCUMENT  
vaccines received  
by patients

- Most private health insurance plans cover recommended vaccines<sup>2</sup>
- Flu and pneumococcal vaccines are covered for all Medicare beneficiaries age 65+<sup>2,3</sup>

## Pathways for Flu and Pneumococcal Vaccination and Billing

Inpatient immunizations are billed separately from the DRG rate.<sup>4</sup>

### Alternatives to DRG Billing

Commercial and  
Medicare Advantage



#### Check With the Plan

Check with the plan for information on billing and payment. Each plan can have specific rules for billing<sup>2,5</sup>



#### Refer to Outpatient Providers

Refer patient to outpatient/retail pharmacy or to HCP – both can bill the health plan directly for flu and pneumococcal vaccinations<sup>4,6</sup>

Medicare Fee  
for Service



#### Roster Bill

Complete a modified form CMS-1450 and attach a roster form.  
**CMS reimburses for the cost of each vaccine outside of the DRG<sup>4,6</sup>**



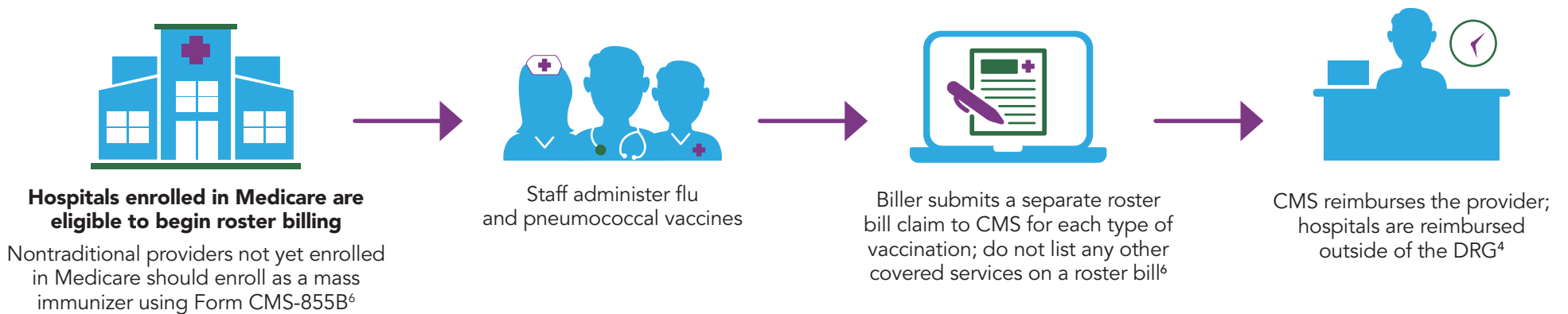
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# Roster Billing for Flu and Pneumococcal Vaccinations

## Roster Billing

A simplified way for mass immunizers such as hospitals and nontraditional providers\* like public health clinics and retail pharmacies to bundle bill for flu and pneumococcal vaccinations administered to Medicare fee-for-service beneficiaries<sup>6</sup>



\*Nontraditional providers refers to those that would usually be ineligible to enroll in Medicare, such as a retail pharmacy, health clinic, or senior center.<sup>4</sup>

For more information on roster billing, please contact your Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC)

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Standards for Adult Immunization Practice. May 2, 2016. Accessed March 30, 2022. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/adults/for-practice/standards>
2. Immunization Action Coalition. Vaccinating adults: a step-by-step guide. Step 7B: How to bill for adult immunizations. 2017. Accessed March 30, 2022. <https://www.immunize.org/guide/pdfs/vacc-adults-step7B.pdf>
3. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Medicare managed care manual. Chapter 4 – benefits and beneficiary protections. Revised April 22, 2016. Accessed March 30, 2022. <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/mc86c04.pdf>
4. CMS. Flu shot billing. September 27, 2021. Accessed March 30, 2022. <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/preventive-services/flu-shot-billing>
5. CMS. Medicare Part D vaccines. January 2022. Accessed March 30, 2022. <https://www.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/medicare-learning-network-mln/mlnproducts/downloads/vaccines-part-d-factsheet-icn908764.pdf>
6. CMS. MLN Booklet. Mass immunizers and roster billing for influenza virus and pneumococcal vaccinations. July 2018. Accessed March 30, 2022. <https://health.maryland.gov/pophealth/Documents/Local%20Health%20Department%20Billing%20Manual/PDF%20Manual/Section%20VI/MC%20Mass%20Immunize%20Roster%20Bill%20Factsheet%20MLN.pdf>

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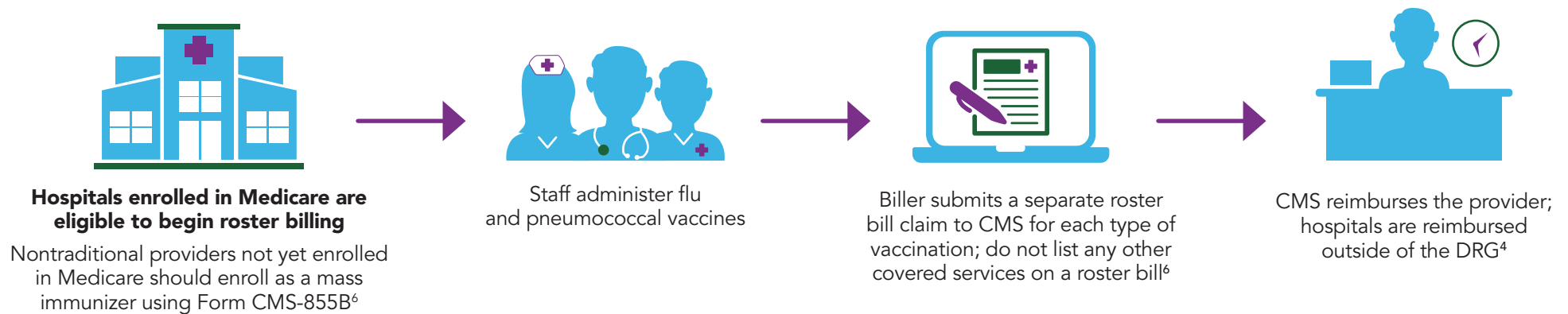
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