

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution: 126
(A-22)

Introduced by: Idaho

Subject: Providing Recommended Vaccines Under Medicare Parts B And C

Referred to: Reference Committee A

- 1 Whereas, Many vaccines are recommended for routine use by the Advisory Committee for
2 Immunization Practices (ACIP) for Medicare-eligible beneficiaries; and
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4 Whereas, Medicare patients usually have the opportunity to obtain recommended routine
5 vaccines at their usual source of care in the outpatient medical home; and
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7 Whereas, The AMA believes that all public and private insurers should include immunizations
8 recommended by ACIP as a covered benefit and that patients should receive all immunizations
9 recommended by ACIP; and
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11 Whereas, Under Section 2713 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, all private
12 health plans are required to cover, without cost sharing, ACIP recommended routine
13 immunizations; and
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15 Whereas, Medicare currently does not cover some ACIP recommended routine vaccines under
16 parts B and C which results in the outpatient medical home being excluded from providing
17 recommended routine vaccines to Medicare beneficiaries; therefore be it
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19 RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association support the expansion of coverage of all
20 Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended immunizations for routine
21 use as a covered benefit by all public and private health plans (New HOD Policy); and be it
22 further
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24 RESOLVED, That our AMA advocate to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
25 (CMS), and Congress if necessary, for expanded coverage of all ACIP recommended
26 immunizations for routine use to be a covered benefit without patient cost under Medicare parts
27 B and C for Medicare beneficiaries. (Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Not yet determined

Received: 05/11/22

RELEVANT AMA POLICY

Assuring Access to ACIP/AAFP/AAP-Recommended Vaccines H-440.875

1. It is AMA policy that all persons, regardless of economic and insurance status, receive all Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)-recommended vaccines as soon as possible following publication of these recommendations in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR).
2. Our AMA will continue to work with the federal government, Congress, and other stakeholders to improve liability protection for vaccine manufacturers and health care professionals who provide immunization services and to examine and improve compensation mechanisms for patients who were legitimately injured by a vaccine.
3. Our AMA will continue to work with the federal government, Congress, and other appropriate stakeholders to enhance public opinion of vaccines and to monitor and ensure the continued safety of existing and newly approved vaccines (including providing adequate resources for post-approval surveillance) so as to maintain and improve public confidence in the safety of vaccines.
4. Our AMA will work with appropriate stakeholders, including vaccine manufacturers, vaccine distributors, the federal government, medical specialty societies, and third party payers, to guarantee a robust vaccine delivery infrastructure (including but not limited to, the research and development of new vaccines, the ability to track the real-time supply status of ACIP-recommended vaccines, and the timely distribution of ACIP-recommended vaccines to providers).
5. Our AMA will work with appropriate federal and state agencies and private sector entities to ensure that state Medicaid agencies and private insurance plans pay health care professionals at least the approved Relative Value Unit (RVU) administration Medicare rates for payment when they administer ACIP-recommended vaccines.
6. Our AMA will work with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to address barriers associated with Medicare recipients receiving live zoster vaccine and the routine boosters Td and Tdap in physicians' offices.
7. Our AMA will work through appropriate state entities to ensure all health insurance plans rapidly include newly ACIP-recommended vaccines in their list of covered benefits, and to pay health care professionals fairly for the purchase and administration of ACIP-recommended vaccines.
8. Our AMA will urge Medicare to include Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Acellular Pertussis) under Medicare Part B as a national public health measure to help prevent the spread of Pertussis.
9. Until compliance of AMA Policy H-440.875(6) is actualized to the AMA's satisfaction regarding the tetanus vaccine, our AMA will aggressively petition CMS to include tetanus and Tdap at both the "Welcome to Medicare" and Annual Medicare Wellness visits, and other clinically appropriate encounters, as additional "triggering event codes" (using the AT or another modifier) that allow for coverage and payment of vaccines to Medicare recipients.
10. Our AMA will aggressively petition CMS to include coverage and payment for any vaccinations administered to Medicare patients that are recommended by the ACIP, the US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), or based on prevailing preventive clinical health guidelines.

Citation: BOT Action in response to referred for decision Res. 524, A-06; Reaffirmation A-07; Appended: Res. 531, A-07; Reaffirmation A-09; Reaffirmed: Res. 501, A-09; Reaffirmation I-10; Reaffirmation A-11; Reaffirmed in lieu of Res. 422, A-11; BOT action in response to referred for decision Res. 422, A-11; Reaffirmation: I-12; Appended: Res. 227, I-12; Appended: Res. 824, I-14; Reaffirmed: Res. 411, A-17; Reaffirmed: CMS Rep. 3, I-20; Reaffirmed: Res. 228, A-21