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SPECIAL EDITION: November Update

New COVID-19 Vaccine Codes: November Update

The Current Procedural Terminology (CPT[®]) Editorial Panel (the Panel) has approved a new vaccine product code (91316) and a new vaccine administration code (0164A) for the administration of a booster dose of the Moderna bivalent vaccine product to address severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (coronavirus disease 2019 [COVID-19]) for patients aged 6 months through 5 years. These codes will become effective upon receiving emergency use authorization (EUA) from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

In order to assist CPT code users in differentiating and appropriately reporting the available vaccine product codes and their affiliated immunization administration codes, the American Medical Association (AMA) established a website (<https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/cpt/covid-19-cpt-vaccine-and-immunization-codes>) that features timely updates of the Panel's actions. The last COVID-19 update was in the *CPT[®] Assistant Special Edition*:

October Update (2022) in which the Novavax booster vaccine administration code (0044A) was discussed.

This issue of *CPT® Assistant Special Edition* provides guidance on the appropriate use of the new Moderna bivalent booster vaccine product code (91316) and its associated vaccine administration code (0164A) for patients aged 6 months through 5 years.

Immunization Administration for Vaccines/Toxoids

#●0164A Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, bivalent, preservative free, 10 mcg/0.2 mL dosage, booster dose

▶ (Report 0164A for the administration of vaccine 91316) ◀

▶ (Do not report 0164A in conjunction with 91301, 91306, 91309, 91311, 91313, 91314) ◀

Vaccines, Toxoids

#✎●91316 Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, bivalent, preservative free, 10 mcg/0.2 mL dosage, for intramuscular use

▶ (Report 91316 with administration codes 0164A) ◀

▶ (Do not report 91316 in conjunction with administration codes 0011A, 0012A, 0013A, 0064A, 0091A, 0092A, 0093A, 0094A, 0111A, 0112A, 0113A, 0134A, 0144A) ◀

New vaccine product code 91316 describes the Moderna bivalent booster product for patients aged 6 months through 5 years. Code 0164A should be reported with the vaccine product code 91316 to report administration of the booster dose. This bivalent vaccine product targets both COVID-19 subvariants BA.4 and BA.5 and may be used as a booster dose for patients who were previously vaccinated for COVID-19. Parenthetical notes have been added following the vaccine administration and product codes to clarify the appropriate use of these new codes.

As with previous COVID-19 vaccine administration codes, counseling is included as part of the administration visit and should not be reported separately. The physician or other qualified health care professional (QHP) should exercise clinical judgment to determine whether the administration of the vaccine product is appropriate for a given patient. More information on current guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) regarding which patients should receive a COVID-19 vaccine is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines.html>.

To accommodate the new coding structure, Appendix Q was added to the CPT code set. Appendix Q details the vaccine codes, their associated vaccine administration code(s), the vaccine manufacturers and names, the National Drug Code (NDC) labeler product ID, and dosing intervals. Appendix Q was recently re-formatted to also show appropriate age ranges for each vaccine product and the associated vaccine administration codes to assist in providing clarity for the user. The new vaccine product and vaccine administration codes discussed here will be included in Appendix Q.

Additional details on the new vaccine coding structure and other pertinent information provided in multiple special editions of the *CPT*[®] *Assistant* for COVID-19 guidance are available at <https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/cpt/covid-19-cpt-coding-and-guidance>.

Table 1 is an excerpt from Appendix Q that highlights the new Moderna bivalent booster discussed in this article. Refer to the full text of Appendix Q, which is available at <https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/covid-19-immunizations-appendix-q-table.pdf>, to keep abreast of additional changes as they occur.

Table 1 Excerpt from Appendix Q: New Moderna Bivalent Booster COVID-19 Vaccine Product and Vaccine Administration Codes

Vaccine Code	Vaccine Administration Code(s)	Patient Age
# 91316 Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, bivalent, preservative free, 10 mcg/0.2 mL dosage, for intramuscular use	0164A (Booster)	6 months through 5 years

The following clinical examples and procedural descriptions reflect typical clinical scenarios for which these new codes would be appropriately reported.

Clinical Example (91316)

A parent or guardian of a 1-year-old child who was previously immunized with a primary series seeks a bivalent booster immunization against SARS-CoV-2 to decrease the risk of contracting this disease, consistent with evidence-supported guidelines. The parent or guardian is offered and accepts an intramuscular injection of SARS-CoV-2 vaccine for the child for this purpose.

Description of Procedure (91316)

The physician or other qualified health care professional (QHP) determines that the bivalent SARS-CoV-2 vaccine is appropriate for this patient and dispenses the vaccine according to the dose scheduled in the administration code for the SARS-CoV-2 vaccine.

Clinical Example (0164A)

A parent or guardian of a 1-year-old child who was previously immunized with a primary series seeks a bivalent booster immunization against SARS-CoV-2 to decrease the risk of contracting this disease, consistent with evidence-supported guidelines. The parent or guardian is offered and agrees to an intramuscular injection of SARS-CoV-2 vaccine for the child for this purpose.

Description of Procedure (0164A)

The physician or other QHP reviews the patient's chart to confirm that vaccination to decrease the risk of COVID-19 is indicated. Counsel the patient on the benefits and risks of vaccination to decrease the risk of COVID-19 and obtain consent. Administer the bivalent booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine by intramuscular injection in the upper arm. Monitor the patient for any adverse reaction. Update the patient's immunization record (and registry when applicable) to reflect the vaccine administered.

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The *CPT® Assistant Special Edition* information is designed to provide accurate, up-to-date coding information. We continue to make every reasonable effort to ensure the accuracy of the material presented. However, this publication does not replace the *CPT®* codebook; it serves only as a guide.

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