



## Flu Shot Reminder

As a respected source of health care information, patients trust their doctors' recommendations. If you have Medicare patients who haven't yet received their flu shot, help protect them by recommending an annual influenza and a one time pneumococcal vaccination. Medicare provides coverage for flu and pneumococcal vaccines and their administration. – And don't forget to immunize yourself and your staff. **Protect yourself, your patients, and your family and friends. Get Your Flu Shot.** Remember - Influenza vaccination is a covered Part B benefit. Note that influenza vaccine is NOT a Part D covered drug. For more information about Medicare's coverage of adult immunizations and educational resources, go to CMS's website:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0667.pdf> .

MLN Matters Number: MM5365

Related Change Request (CR) #: 5365

Related CR Release Date: December 22, 2006

Effective Date: September 1, 2006

Related CR Transmittal #: R256OTN

Implementation Date: January 22, 2007

## Payment Allowances for the Influenza Virus Vaccine (CPT Codes 90655, 90656, 90657, and 90658) and the Pneumococcal Vaccine (CPT 90732) When Payment is Based on 95 Percent of the Average Wholesale Price (AWP)

### Provider Types Affected

Physicians, non-physician practitioners, providers and suppliers billing Medicare contractors (Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs), fiscal intermediaries (FIs) and carriers for the influenza and pneumococcal vaccines.

### Background

This article and related change request (CR) 5365 provide the payment allowances for the following influenza virus vaccines: CPT codes 90655, 90656, 90657, and 90658 as well as the pneumococcal vaccine (CPT 90732) when payment is based on 95 percent of the AWP.

### Key Points

- Effective September 1, 2006, the Medicare Part B payment allowance for CPT 90655 is \$15.377.

#### Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

- Effective September 1, 2006, the Medicare Part B payment allowance for CPT 90656 is \$16.574.
- Effective September 1, 2006, the Medicare Part B payment allowance for CPT 90657 is \$6.312.
- Effective September 1, 2006, the Medicare Part B payment allowance for CPT 90658 is \$12.624.
- Effective September 1, 2006, the Medicare Part B payment allowance for CPT 90732 is \$27.028.
- Annual Part B deductible and coinsurance amounts do not apply to these services.
- All physicians, non-physician practitioners and suppliers who administer the influenza virus vaccination and the pneumococcal vaccination must take assignment on the claim for the vaccine.
- Note that your carrier or FI may also cover CPT 90660 (FluMist, a nasal influenza vaccine) if they determine its use is medically reasonable and necessary for the beneficiary.
- Please take note of this pricing information to ensure accurate claims processing. Your carrier or FI will not search their files to either retract payment for claims already paid or to retroactively pay claims. However, they will adjust claims brought to their attention.

## Implementation

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While the implementation of these rates will occur on January 22, 2007, the rates apply to dates of service on or after September 1, 2006.

## Additional Information

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If you have questions, please contact your Medicare FI, Carrier or A/B MAC, at their toll-free number which may be found at:  
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip>  
on the CMS website.

To view CR 5365, the official instruction issued to your Medicare FI, Carrier or A/B MAC on this issue, visit  
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R256OTN.pdf> on the CMS web site.

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