

# Optimizing Reimbursement for Routinely Recommended Maternal Immunizations

## Coding Tips for Obstetricians

- Immunizations are recommended as part of comprehensive care for pregnant people. Obstetrician–gynecologists have a unique opportunity to reduce the frequency of vaccine-preventable diseases with
  - » awareness of current vaccine recommendations
  - » education and encouragement of their patients to receive appropriate vaccines
  - » integration of vaccination into routine clinical practice
- ACOG encourages clinicians to stock and, ideally, administer all recommended vaccines in their offices. Studies show that immunization rates are higher when a trusted clinician can strongly recommend, offer, and administer the vaccine during the same visit, rather than recommending vaccination and referring the patient elsewhere for vaccination.
- Influenza and Tdap vaccines are routinely offered and administered by a majority of prenatal care practices, while other important vaccines are not as commonly stocked, leaving significant gaps in care. With proper documentation and coding, billing for both counseling about and administration of vaccines can be reported to third-party payers, and reimbursement can be received. In general, the appropriate vaccine product code, which is also specific to different manufacturers' brands within a class of vaccines, should always be reported along with the appropriate Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) vaccine administration code for the vaccination procedure itself.

### Coding Tips

- Must include relevant ICD-10-CM codes indicating a vaccine was administered during a pregnancy visit, Z23 (vaccine encounter).
  - Document the gestational age at the time of vaccination using the correct ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes (Z3A.X, X = gestational age in weeks).
  - Use the appropriate administration codes:
    - » 90471 (for one vaccine in patients over age 18)
    - » AND 90472 (for each additional vaccine given after the first one in the same visit in patients over age 18)
- OR—
- » 90460 (for patients through age 18 when vaccine counseling is provided)
  - » AND 90461 (for each additional vaccine given after the first one in the same visit in patients in patients through age 18 or younger)
- Some payers may require modifier “-33” on the administration code to indicate the service was preventive and exempt from patient cost-sharing. Check payer coding guidelines.
  - If distinct vaccine counseling beyond the standard administration is documented, an Evaluation and Management (E/M) visit code may also be billed.

## Reimbursement for Vaccinations – Coding Formula

A vaccination procedure has two components: 1) the administration of the vaccine and 2) the vaccine product (drug) itself. The administration may be performed by the obstetrician–gynecologist or other health care professional. When the vaccine drug and the administration are provided by the physician’s office, report a code for the vaccine and a code for the administration of the vaccine.

ICD-10-CM Code +	+ (1) Administration CPT Code +	(2) Vaccine-Specific CPT Code (different for each vaccine)
Z23 – Encounter for immunization (any)	90480	See table below
	90460, 90461, 90471, 90472	

Vaccines Commonly Administered to Pregnant Patients			
	Vaccine (Description)	Code for Vaccine Product (CPT Code)	Administration CPT Code
COVID-19	COVID-19 vaccine, tris-sucrose, 30 micrograms, for IM use	91320	90480
	COVID-19 vaccine, spike, 50 micrograms/0.5 mL, for IM use	91322	
	COVID-19 vaccine, recombinant spike protein nanoparticle, saponin-based adjuvant, 5 micrograms/0.5 mL dosage, for intramuscular use	91304	
Influenza	Influenza virus vaccine, trivalent (IIV3), split virus, preservative free, 0.5 mL dosage, for intramuscular use	90656	90460-90472
	Influenza virus vaccine, trivalent (RIV3), derived from recombinant DNA, hemagglutinin (HA) protein only, preservative and antibiotic free, for intramuscular use	90673	
	Influenza virus vaccine, trivalent (cclIV3), derived from cell cultures, subunit, preservative and antibiotic free, 0.5 mL dosage, for intramuscular use	90658	
	Influenza virus vaccine, trivalent (cclIV3), derived from cell cultures, subunit, preservative and antibiotic free, 0.5 mL dosage, for intramuscular use	90661	
RSV	Respiratory syncytial virus vaccine, preF, subunit, bivalent, for intramuscular use	90678	
Tdap	Tetanus, diphtheria toxoids, and acellular pertussis vaccine (Tdap), when administered to individuals 7 years or older, for intramuscular use	90715	