**Medicare Vaccine Coverage**

A common Medicare question is should I get my vaccines at a doctor’s office or the pharmacy? The answer to this lies in the way the vaccine is covered by Medicare. Some pay under Part B and can be given at the doctor’s office or pharmacy, but those that pay under Part D are best to get at a pharmacy. Why is this? Offices can bill to Part B, but most are not set up for Part D billing. Therefore, the patient will have to pay the bill and then submit to their insurance to receive reimbursement – this creates a lot of confusion, and some patients aren’t able to afford that upfront bill even when reimbursement will be received.

Below includes a breakdown of commonly administered vaccines and which location a patient should receive them at.

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| --- | --- |
| **Part B Vaccines – Office or Pharmacy** | **Part D Vaccines – Recommend Pharmacy** |
| Influenza vaccines (for example, Fluzone, Fluad) | Shingrix |
| Pneumococcal vaccines (for example, Prevnar13, Pneumovax) | RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) Vaccines (for example, Abrysvo, Arexvy, mResvia) |
| COVID-19 vaccines (for example, Comirnaty, Spikevax) |

Some vaccines will pay Part D or Part B depending on certain circumstances. When in doubt, we recommend members receive their vaccines at the pharmacy. Below includes a list of these more commonly encountered vaccines and how payment is directed depending on the situation.

**Part B or Part D**

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Part B (Office or Pharmacy)** | **Part D (Recommend Pharmacy)** |
| **Tetanus (for example, Td, Tenivac, Tdap)** | Related to treatment of an injury or direct exposure | Booster/routine immunization |
| **Hepatitis (for example, Recombivax, Engerix-B, PreHevbrio)\*** | High or Intermediate Risk | Low Risk |

**\***Prior Authorization may be required to determine coverage