Information partners can use on:

Talking to People with Medicare about the COVID-19 Vaccine

Does Medicare cover the COVID-19 vaccine?

Medicare covers FDA-authorized coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccines.

What's the cost?

Medicare covers the COVID-19 vaccine and administration of the vaccine at no cost to people with Medicare. Providers can bill Medicare for the administration.

What's the status of the vaccine?

The federal government is purchasing COVID-19 vaccines and distributing them through the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program. Pharmaceutical manufacturers are distributing vaccines to federally and state-approved locations. Each state has its own plan for deciding who they'll vaccinate first and how residents can get vaccines. Most people with Medicare are at higher risk for COVID-19 and eligible to get the vaccine during an early phase. For more information on vaccines in your area and to see who's eligible, check with your local health department.

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How can you help?

- Remind patients that they can get the vaccine at no cost to them.
- Tell people to bring their red, white, and blue Medicare card when they get their vaccine, even if they have a Medicare Advantage Plan. Their vaccine provider will need their Medicare Number to bill Medicare. If they need to print a new copy of their card, they can visit Medicare.gov for instructions.
- Encourage patients and communities to get all recommended immunizations, including the COVID-19 vaccine. They should get the vaccine to protect them from getting COVID-19 and keep them from spreading it to others.
- Direct people to visit their local health departments to see when and where they can get a COVID-19 vaccine.
- Alert people to watch for scammers. Scammers are fraudulently asking people with Medicare for their Medicare Numbers with promises of getting them on a list or early access to the vaccine. Tell them not to share their personal or financial information with these people.
- Encourage people to report a provider they think is potentially violating any of the requirements on the CDC's website or in this tip sheet (like charging them to get a vaccine) to the Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, by calling 1-800-HHS-TIPS or visiting TIPS.HHS.GOV.

Where can you get more information?

- For more information on Medicare coverage of the COVID-19 vaccine and other related services, visit Medicare.gov.
- For key things to know about the COVID-19 vaccine, visit the CDC's website.
- For more information on vaccine progress, visit the CDC's website.
- For additional partner resources, visit the CMS COVID-19 Partner Resources Page.

You have the right to get Medicare information in an accessible format, like large print, Braille, or audio. You also have the right to file a complaint if you feel you've been discriminated against. Visit Medicare.gov/about-us/nondiscrimination/ accessibility-nondiscrimination.html, or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) for more information. TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.

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