



Federal Retail Pharmacy Program Updates

August 31: video update from Scott Podolan

In this latest video, Scott provides an update on the Federal Retail Pharmacy Partnership Program, discusses a sample patient self-attestation form, new marketing resources, renewed CDC efforts on layered prevention strategies, changes for at-home vaccine delivery, updated expiry dates for Prizer vaccines, a success story vaccinating local school district, and tips for reaching out to LTC facilities to get boosters underway, and more.

[Watch now](#)

2 million doses!

AmerisourceBergen COVID-19 vaccine program hits another major milestone.

Last week, we officially surpassed 2 million doses allocated through our [Federal Pharmacy Partnership](#) to our independent pharmacies! This achievement means so much to all of us here at *Good Neighbor Pharmacy* and Elevate Provider Network because not only does it help demonstrate the incredible value and reach of independent pharmacies, but it also shows that independents are nimble and fill patient care gaps that the big chains simply can't. We have always been a passionate advocate for independent pharmacies, but over the past 18 months, patients throughout the country are seeing the strength, compassion, and service that you have always provided to your communities. Let's celebrate this 2 millionth dose together. We worked hard to get independent pharmacies a seat at the table, but you took it from there. So, we owe it all to you – our independent pharmacy members. Your patients are lucky to have you in their corners!

CDC urging renewed efforts to maximize effective layered prevention strategies

Vaccines are playing a crucial role in limiting spread of the virus and minimizing severe disease. However, although vaccines are highly effective, they do not eliminate 100% of the risk of infection or transmission. CDC is calling for renewed efforts to maximize all effective layered prevention strategies to stop the pandemic.

[Read more](#)

Patient self-attestation template for third dose

Good Neighbor Pharmacy has put together a [suggested patient self-attestation template](#) as a reference point for pharmacies. All reporting, attestation and compliance obligations remain vested with the participating pharmacy, and they should seek independent legal review/guidance if and as needed.

CMS expands vaccine access, changes payment for at-home patients

NCPA, August 24, 2021

CMS announced new guidelines for administering COVID-19 vaccinations in patient homes and certain other locations, and a change in the number of additional payments per visit. Here are the details:
Here's what's been added:

- Communal space of a multi-unit or communal living arrangement.
- Assisted living facilities participating in the CDC's Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care. program when their residents are vaccinated through this program.

Effective Tuesday, Medicare will pay the additional payment amount (approximately \$35 per dose administered) for up to a maximum of five administration services per home unit or communal space within a single group living location, but only when fewer than 10 Medicare patients receive a COVID-19 vaccine dose on the same day at the same group living location.

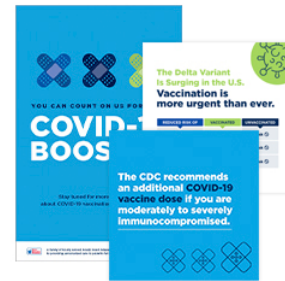
Ask your medical billing intermediary how to flag a claim when it's submitted that it is eligible for the additional payment for a home visit.

FDA extends Pfizer vaccine expiration dates

NCPA, August 23, 2021

The FDA has approved an extension to the amendment to the EUA for expiration dates for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. Cartons and vials of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine with an expiry date of August 2021 through February 2022 printed on the label may remain in use for three months beyond the printed date if authorized storage conditions between -90°C to -60°C (-130°F to -76°F) have been maintained. Please note: the ultra-cold temperature range has been broadened to include -90° C (-130°F). Frozen vials stored at -25°C to -15°C and refrigerated vials (2°C to 8°C) are NOT eligible for extension. The extended expiration date is effective immediately for all currently available batches that have not yet expired. NOTE: Expiration dates extension does NOT apply to vials dated July 2021 and earlier. You'll find additional information on Pfizer storage and handling [here](#). Here's an [FDA fact sheet](#) for vaccination providers.

New! COVID-19 marketing materials on COVID-19 vaccine booster shots and variants



Visit [Brand Central Station](#) and [SOCi](#) for new digital and print marketing materials you can use to let your patients know they can count on you for the booster shot. You can also find patient education materials on the COVID variants. Materials include social media graphics, window clings, counter cards, and more. Stay tuned for additional marketing materials in the coming weeks.

Reach out to care facilities and offer vaccine assistance

NCPA, August 25, 2021

Contact local facilities, including skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, and group homes, and offer to help them with vaccination boosters, when available (and primary doses if still needed). Some LTC facilities are planning their vaccine clinics now, and you want to be their resource for vaccination. Call them today and work with them on their plan.

- Make sure any online scheduler or other information is up to date and can accommodate additional and booster doses.
- If you have preferred contact information for potential vaccine clinic partners to use to reach out to you, add it to the notes field on [vaccine.gov](#).

New to the COVID-19 vaccine program? Please read these reminders

Implementation guide

Our in-depth [implementation guide](#) provides everything you need to know about running a successful and compliant COVID-19 vaccination program at your pharmacy.

Timing and ordering process

Pharmacies must request COVID-19 vaccine allocation by [following this process through ABC Order](#). Requests submitted by Mondays at 12pm EST should arrive to your pharmacy by Thursday of that same week. Any requests received after Mondays at 12pm EST will be fulfilled the following week. Order fulfillment is subject to availability.

VaccineFinder Reporting

Remember to report your vaccine inventory on hand under your FEDERAL login and make sure your VaccineFinder listing is accurate. Need help? Email vaccinefinder@castlighthhealth.com or call 855-886-4317.

Tell us your story!

Is your pharmacy doing anything **special or innovative** to vaccinate the most vulnerable patients in your community? Do you have any tips to provide your peers on how you are combatting vaccine hesitancy among your patients? If so, we want to hear about it! Your story may be featured in an upcoming issue of this newsletter, and on our Fearless Pharmacy website! Tell us your story by emailing COVIDvaccines@AmerisourceBergen.com.

Questions? Continue to work with your Business Coach or Sales Executive if you have questions. Questions can be sent to COVIDvaccines@AmerisourceBergen.com.