Policy and Procedure

Policy Name: Adult Immunizations

Effective Date: [Blank] Revision Date: [Blank]

Department(s)/Site(s): [Blank]

Document Owners: [Blank]

Approved By: [Blank]

Relevant Law/Standard:
- Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) All Plan Letter 20-006, Site Reviews: Facility Site Review and Medical Record Review
- DHCS, Immunization Requirements, All Plan Letter 18-004
- DHCS, Adult Immunizations as A Pharmacy Benefit, All Plan Letter 16-009 (Revised)

Policy:

Adult Immunizations are given according to The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) guidelines.

Procedure:

A. Providers must ensure timely provision of immunizations to patients in accordance with the most recent schedule and recommendations published by ACIP, regardless of a member’s age, sex, or medical condition, including pregnancy, unless medically contraindicated or refused by the member.

B. Providers must document each member’s need for ACIP recommended immunizations as part of all regular health visits, including, but not limited to the following types of encounters:
   - Illness, care management, or follow-up appointments
   - Initial Health Assessments (IHAs)
   - Pharmacy services
   - Prenatal and postpartum care
   - Pre-travel visits
   - Sports, school, or work physicals
   - Visits to a local health department (LHD)
   - Well patient checkups

C. Vaccination status must be assessed for the following:
   - Td/Tdap (every 10 years),
   - Flu (annually),
   - Pneumococcal (starting at age 65),
• Zoster (starting at age 50),
• Varicella and MMR.

i. Documented evidence of immunity (i.e. titers, childhood acquired infection) in the medical record meets the criteria for Varicella and MMR.

D. Documentation of immunizations, either recorded in the medical/electronic record or on medication logs, must include the following:
   • The name of the vaccine(s),
   • the date of administration,
   • the manufacturer,
   • the lot number of each vaccine,
   • including immunization registries,
   • the date the VIS was given (or presented and offered),
   • and the VIS publication date.

E. As ACIP-recommended immunizations are viewed as preventive services, these services must not be subject to prior authorization. In instances where the Medi-Cal Provider Manual outlines immunization criteria that is less restrictive than ACIP criteria, MCPs must provide the immunization in accordance with the less restrictive Medi-Cal Provider Manual criteria.

F. Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 1746.4(e) requires pharmacists to report the administration of any vaccine, within 14 days, to the appropriate immunization registry. In addition, DHCS strongly recommends that not only pharmacists, but all network primary care providers, report immunization information within 14 days of administering an immunization.
   • Reports to The California Immunization Registry (CAIR2)] shall be made following the member's initial health assessment and all other health care visits which result in an immunization being provided, in accordance with state and federal laws.
Resources:

https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/imz/adult.html


Table 1. Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule for ages 19 years or older, United States, 2020

Always make recommendations by determining needed vaccines based on age (Table 1), assessing for medical conditions and other indications (Table 2), and reviewing special situations (Notes).

https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/imz/adult.html

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