

October 2006

For the 2006-07 influenza season, Health Partners is encouraging all providers to adhere to the CDC recommendations and guidelines. The CDC has recommended the following groups for vaccination:

- Adults and children with co-morbid conditions
- Persons aged ≥ 50 years
- Children aged 6-59 months
- Children and adolescents (aged 6 months-18 years) who are receiving long term aspirin therapy
- Women who will be pregnant during the influenza season
- Health-care personnel who provide direct patient care
- Household contacts and out-of-home caregivers of persons at high risk for influenza-related complications including healthy contacts and caregivers of children aged 0-59 months.
- Residents of long-term care facilities

Please visit the CDC's website for additional information and updates at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu>.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING HEALTH PARTNERS AND SENIOR PARTNERS CLAIMS PAYMENT GUIDELINES:

HEALTH PARTNERS PROVIDERS who participate in the VFC program:

- Flu vaccine and Flumist are provided by the Vaccine for Children (VFC) program (providers must obtain their supply from VFC) and Health Partners pays only the administration fee when the vaccine codes are submitted.

HEALTH PARTNERS PROVIDERS who do not participate in the VFC program:

- We encourage administration of the flu vaccine in provider offices and will cover the cost of both the vaccine and administration.
- Flumist will not be covered at this time. We will notify providers regarding payment should there be a shortage later this season.
- All members over age 65 should also receive a pneumococcal vaccine which will be reimbursed, as well as the administrative fee.

SENIOR PARTNERS PROVIDERS:

- We encourage administration of the flu vaccine in provider offices and will cover the cost of both the vaccine and administration.

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SENIOR PARTNERS PROVIDERS (continued):

- Flumist will not be covered at this time. We will notify providers regarding payment should there be a shortage later this season.
- All members over age 65 should also receive a pneumococcal vaccine which will be reimbursed, as well as the administrative fee.

HEALTH PARTNERS and SENIOR PARTNERS PROVIDERS:

- If your office has exhausted its supply of vaccine and is unable to provide vaccination to our high-risk members, as identified by the CDC, you can reference the Department of Public Health website at <http://www.phila.gov/health> or contact their automated telephone system at 215-685-6458 **after October 16, 2006** for a listing of city health clinics and community-based sites for times and locations for flu shot administration. If you need further assistance, please contact Health Partners' Provider Services Helpline at 215-991-4350 or 1-888-991-9023. This information is also available on the Health Partners website at www.healthpart.com.

Please submit your claim using the appropriate CPT code:

Vaccine	CPT Code
Influenza- preservative free-children 6-35 months	90655
Influenza- preservative free for 3 yrs and older	90656
Influenza- children 6-35 months	90657
Influenza-3 yrs and older	90658
Pneumococcal	90732
Pneumococcal-PREVNAR (Pediatric use)	90669
Flumist (Vaccine for Children program only)	90660