URGENT

MEMORANDUM

To: Chief Financial Officers – All Hospitals

From: Dennis N. Phelps – Deputy Director-Audit & Compliance

Re: Reporting and Charging for the Administration of COVID-19 Vaccines

Date: March 16, 2021

Effective March 15, 2021, CMS increased the Medicare payment amount for administering COVID-19 vaccines. The new payment allowance for administration of each dose of the COVID-19 vaccines whether first or second dose, when applicable, is $40.00.

Consistent with its policy for COVID-19 testing, the HSCRC is setting statewide standardized tiered outpatient Clinic (CL) charges based on Medicare Payment Allowances for the administration of COVID-19 vaccines for all patients for the duration of Maryland’s State of Emergency.

CMS has issued the following CPT/HCPCS codes and the revised Medicare Payment Allowances for the administration of COVID-19 vaccines:

CPT Short Labeler Payment

Code Descriptor Name Administration Allowance

001A ADM SARSCOV2 Pfizer First Dose $40.00 30MCG/0.3 ML 1st

0002A ADM SARSCOV2 Pfizer Second Dose $40.00

30MCG/0.3 ML 2ND

0011A SARSCOV2 VAC Moderna First Dose $40.00

100MCG/0.5 ML 1st

0012A SARSCOV2 VAC Moderna Second Dose $40.00

100MCG/0.5 ML 2ND

0021A SARSCOV2 AstraZeneca First Dose $40.00

5X10^10VP/.5ML

0022A SARSCOV2 AstraZeneca Second Dose $40.00

5X10^10VP/.5ML

0031A SARSCOV2 Janssen Dose $40.00

VAC AD26 .5ML

All hospitals are to set the number of RVUs per injection for both the first and second doses at 1 RVU. Effective March 15, 2021, the charge for all hospitals for the administration of COVID-19 vaccines is $40.00 per dose. Hospitals are to adjust the charge per RVU on all other CL visits/procedures to maintain unit rate compliance.

There should be no additional E&M CL facility fee charges for patients receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. Should these patients require services in addition to administration, because of complications for instance, such services may be billed by a physician or other clinician who can bill for his/her professional services, but not by the hospital. Both the provider and the hospital may not charge for the administration of the vaccine; only one entity may bill.

Hospitals administrating these vaccines to their employees are not required to generate a bill/charge.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at [dennis.phelps@maryland.gov](mailto:dennis.phelps@maryland.gov).