Medical Policy: IMMUNIZATIONS

Benefit Type: Medi-Cal

Original Date: Jan. 18, 2013 | **Last Review Date:** July 25, 2026 | **Effective Date:** Sept. 3, 2026

Policy Statement

In accordance with the state Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) it is the policy of Gold Coast Health Plan (GCHP) to include immunizations as a covered benefit under Medi-Cal for all eligible beneficiaries following evidence based guidelines.

Purpose

To provide guidance related to the medical necessity and indications for immunizations.

Health Equity Statement

GCHP is committed to the vision in which all Californians equitably benefit from resources and systems that give everyone the opportunity to achieve their optimal health, resulting in communities that thrive.

GCHP adopts the American Medical Association (AMA) and DHCS commitments to whole-person centered, evidence-based and integrated strategies to advance health equity, addressing social and structural drivers of health. Decisions are therefore based on the evidence-based criteria as well as considerations of the member's social and structural drivers of health, and considerations that the decisions create no harm nor exacerbate existing harms.[1, 2]

Guidelines

Covid-19 vaccinations and vaccine administration are carved out for MCPs and covered through Medi-Cal Fee-For-Service (FFS) for medical and pharmacy claims.

Guidelines applied include, but are not limited to:

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG)	https://www.acog.org/
American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)	https://www.aafp.org/
Bright Futures Program	https://www.aap.org/en/practice-management/bright-futures/?srsltid=AfmBOopvZ31iH0t5JU7I64Fp8F6x-w7SclVw2BmF8oN7nj6tC1osuBw_
Medi-Cal Provider Manual - Immunizations	https://mcweb.apps.prd.cammis.medi-cal.ca.gov/assets/49FB210E-E257-445C-84FA-1C39C388291C/immun.pdf?access_token=6UyVkRRfByXTZEWIh8j8QaYyIPyP5ULO
California Department of Public Health (CDPH)	https://www.cdph.ca.gov/
California Department of Public Health (CDPH) – Immunization Branch	https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/immunize.aspx

California Department of Public Health (CDPH) - EZIZ	https://eziz.org/ https://eziz.org/assets/docs/IMM-395.pdf
National Academy of Medicine (NAM)	https://nam.edu/
Medicare Preventative Services	https://www.cms.gov/medicare/prevention/prevntiongeninfo/medicare-preventive-services/mps-quickreferencechart-1.html
United States Preventative Services Task Force (USPSTF) – A and B grade services	https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/

References

1. American Medical Association (AMA). (2023, Dec. 21). AMA Center for Health Equity Mission and Guiding Principles.
2. DHCS Comprehensive Quality Strategy. (PDF), published Feb. 4, 2022.

Disclaimer

Guidelines provide references identified at the time of review. New guidelines or medical literature may emerge and/or been published. Treating healthcare professionals are solely responsible for diagnosis, treatment and medical guidance. GCHP regularly reviews and updates these guidelines to provide the most current information.

History

MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE GUIDELINE HISTORY			
Adopted By MAC	**Reapproved**	**Revised**	**Retired**
Jan. 18, 2013			
	July 24, 2014		
	July 30, 2015		
	July 28, 2016		
	July 27, 2017		
	July 26, 2018		
	July 25, 2019		
	July 23, 2020		
	July 22, 2021		
	July 21, 2022		
	July 20, 2023		
	July 18, 2024		
MAC Sunset on July 18, 2024			
CREDENTIALING PEER REVIEW COMMITTEE (C/PRC) GUIDELINE HISTORY			
Adopted By CPRC	**Reapproved**	**Revised**	**Retired**
		June 5, 2025	
		June 4, 2026	
		Sept. 3, 2026	