



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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TO: Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) Providers

FROM: Saroj Rai, Ph.D. 
Immunization Branch Manager

DATE: April 10, 2013

SUBJECT: Increase in Vaccine Administration Fee

Effective immediately, the maximum administration fee that a Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) provider may charge an eligible TVFC patient has increased from \$14.85 to \$22.06 per dose (except for those children who are enrolled in Texas Medicaid or the Texas Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)). For Texas Medicaid and CHIP eligible patients, the provider should continue to bill the administration fee to the appropriate health plan. If a TVFC provider does not bill CHIP for the administration of a vaccine to a CHIP enrolled child, the provider cannot use TVFC vaccines for this child. Both the Texas Medicaid and CHIP agencies establish their own policies and administration fees. For more information on Medicaid reimbursement, please refer to the Texas Medicaid Provider home page at: http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/Medicaid/Medicaid_home.aspx

Providers can charge or bill an administration fee per shot for a TVFC eligible child. However, the provider cannot deny the administration of a qualified pediatric vaccine to a vaccine-eligible child due to the inability of the guardian/parent to pay an administration fee.

In addition, providers may not send a bill for the vaccine administration fee for a TVFC patient to collections if the guardian/parent cannot afford to pay (i.e., if the parent does not pay the bill). The provider can send the office visit fee or any other visit fee (e.g., labs) to collections if unpaid, but not the vaccine administration fee. For additional information on the VFC statutory requirements regarding the vaccine administration fee, please go to the following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) link: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc/awardees/questions/qa-fees.html>

If you have questions, please contact your Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Health Service Region or TVFC Regional Consultant.