

2022 FLU SHOT CLINICS SCHEDULING

1. Who are Excellus BlueCross BlueShield's preferred flu shot vendors?

Preferred Vendor	Service Area(s)
Flu Prevention Partners/Wellness Programs with Value (FPP/WPV)	Local/NYS
Wegmans	Local/NYS
Integrated Health 21 (IH21)	Local/NYS/National
Pharmacy Network	Local/NYS/National

2. What is needed to schedule a flu shot clinic/session?

Local/NYS (FPP/WPV):

- Brokers, Sales and Employer Groups can contact FPP/WPV directly by accessing the following website and completing a flu clinic request form. Completion of the form will generate a request and FPP/WPV will connect with the requestor to confirm dates and times for a flu shot clinic: [Flu Immunizations — WPV Inc.](#)
- Lead time is 6-8 weeks prior to requested date of service

Local/NYS (Wegmans):

- Brokers, Sales and Employer Groups can contact Wegmans directly by email based on region:
 - Rochester & Southern Tier: Megan.Bohrer@wegmans.com
 - Buffalo: Jonathan.Paeplow@wegmans.com
 - Syracuse: David.Florczyk@wegmans.com
- Lead time is 4 weeks prior to requested date of service
- Groups should be prepared with estimated number of participants and preferred date/time.

Local/NYS/National (IH21):

- Brokers, Sales and Employer Groups can contact an Excellus BlueCross BlueShield Wellbeing Engagement Consultant directly by email based on region:
 - Rochester: Janette.Westman@excellus.com & Katie.Keller@excellus.com
 - Syracuse: Jason.Warchal@excellus.com
 - Utica & Southern Tier: Patricia.Salzer@excellus.com
- Lead time is 4-6 weeks prior to requested date of service

3. What if a group wants to use a pharmacy for onsite flu shots?

- Our members have the ability to use virtually any pharmacy in New York State (as well as other states where pharmacists are covered providers for administering vaccines), as Express Scripts has a network of over **64,000** pharmacies nationwide. These pharmacies will bill Express Scripts directly.
- Flu vaccines are NOT covered under the member's prescription drug coverage. The vaccine and administration fee are covered under the medical benefit but will process through the pharmacy point of sale claim system and then is allocated to the medical claim expense.
- For our commercial groups, health care reform requires that these vaccines be covered at 100% if the group coverage includes preventive services. Although processing will occur on the pharmacy system, flu shots, administered in pharmacies will be considered a **medical benefit** (i.e., the members will receive the same benefit they would receive if a medical provider or clinic administers the service).

COST, BILLING & COVERAGE AREA

4. What is the cost for a flu shot?

Local/NYS (FPP/WPV):

- Cover all zip codes in NYS
- Direct bill, and/or out of pocket, and claims adjudication for Quadrivalent vaccine: \$45
- For locations outside 50 miles from WPV office in Pittsford, NY, a \$50 fee will be charged for travel.

Local/NYS (Wegmans):

- Sliding scale based on participation, ranges from \$34.99 to \$39.99 or claims adjudication
- Vaccine options include Quadrivalent for ages 2+, FluMist nasal spray for ages 2-49 and 2 options for ages 65+.

Local/NYS/National (IH21):

- Onsite quadrivalent influenza vaccine (Afluria/IIV4) for 1-150 participants: \$33.50 per Health Plan insured participant submitted via claims
- Onsite quadrivalent influenza vaccine (Afluria/IIV4) for 151+ participants: \$31.50 per Health Plan insured participant submitted via claims

5. Do minimums apply?

Local/NYS (FPP/WPV):

There is a minimum of 10 clients per clinic location. If minimum is not reached there will be an additional charge of \$75 via direct invoice to the group. Additional fees may apply for: extended hours or multiple clinic offerings at one location.

Local/NYS (Wegmans):

Requires a 20 participant per site/event minimum. For less than 20 participants, there may be an additional fee. Additional fees may apply for: extended hours or multiple clinic offerings at one location.

Local/NYS/National (IH21):

Client is responsible for a per event minimum of 30 shots, 90% of the number of shots ordered, or the number of shots administered, whichever is greater.

6. Are there co-pay requirements?

For our commercial groups, health care reform requires that these vaccines be covered at 100% if the group coverage includes preventive services. Although processing will occur on the pharmacy system, flu shots, administered in pharmacies will be considered a **medical benefit** (i.e., the members will receive the same benefit they would receive if a medical provider or clinic administers the service).

7. What is the billing process?

Local/NYS – FPP/WPV:

- **If the employer group has full flu shot coverage (100%),** FPP/WPV will collect subscriber ID & process through claims adjudication system, no money exchanged with member. Group will be invoiced for any flu shots administered to non-members or to those whose claims have been rejected for any reason.
- **If the employer group has no flu shot coverage and group is picking up the cost,** WPV will invoice group after the event.
- **If employees are self-paying,** group is responsible for planning with WPV on how payments will be collected at the site.

Local/NYS – Wegmans:

- **If the employer group has full flu shot coverage (100%),** Wegmans will collect subscriber ID & process through claims adjudication system, no money exchanged with member. Group will be invoiced for any flu shots administered to non-members or to those whose claims have been rejected for any reason.
- **If the employer group has no flu shot coverage and group is picking up the cost,** Wegmans will invoice group after the event.
- **If employees are self-paying,** group is responsible for making arrangements with Wegmans on how payments will be collected at the site.

Local/NYS/National (IH21):

- **If the employer group has full flu shot coverage (100%),** IH21 will collect subscriber ID & process through claims adjudication system, no money exchanged with member. Group will be invoiced for any flu shots administered to non-members or to those whose claims have been rejected for any reason.
- **If the employer group has no flu shot coverage and group is picking up the cost,** IH21 will invoice group after the event.

8. Who should be contacted for billing, contracting, and/or member benefit questions?

Member benefit questions should be directed to Excellus BCBS' Customer Service.

Local/NYS – FPP/WPV:

Questions involving FPP/WPV should be directed to FPP/WPV via the following link:
[Flu Immunizations — WPV Inc.](#)

Local/NYS – Wegmans:

Questions involving Wegmans should be directed to the following email addresses based on region:

- Rochester & Southern Tier: Megan.Bohrer@wegmans.com
- Buffalo: Jonathan.Paeplow@wegmans.com
- Syracuse: David.Florczyk@wegmans.com

Local/NYS/National (IH21):

Questions involving flu shots administered by IH21 should be directed to the following email addresses based on region:

- Rochester: Janette.Westman@excellus.com & Katie.Keller@excellus.com
- Syracuse: Jason.Warchal@excellus.com
- Utica & Southern Tier: Patricia.Salzer@excellus.com

SAFETY POLICY AND PROTOCOL CHANGES

9. Are there any safety policy or protocol changes for 2022?

Local/NYS – FPP/WPV:

- Walk in appointments will be taken. If the group would prefer to utilize an appointment system, FPP/WPV has an online scheduling tool. The online scheduling tool allows for better control of scheduling with clients who tend to have some walk-in appointments.
- Nursing staff will be wearing appropriate PPE.
- Infection Control protocols will remain the top priority as always. FPP/WPV staff will be sanitizing the entire nurses' workstation as well as chairs and frequently touched participant areas.

Local/NYS – Wegmans:

- All pharmacists will be required to wear face masks while immunizing.
- Participants are not required to wear masks.

Local/NYS/National (IH21):

- All IH21 staffing will have Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for their use during events which includes facial masks, protective eyewear, gowns, and gloves.
- All participants will be required to wear their own PPE.
- Screening areas will now require a minimum of 6 feet between screening stations.
- Registration area will now be separated from screening stations to allow required distancing with marked lines or spaced chairs 6 feet apart.
- The facility requirements will be discussed on logistic calls with clients directly and agreed upon prior to the event.
- Walk-in's will be asked to schedule on another time if available or another day.
- Understanding that special situations may occur, IH21 will work with a group to review and plan for on a case-by-case basis.
- Hand sanitizing will be done at each station of the on-site event
- Dedicated medical equipment (blood pressure cuffs, table tops, chairs, etc.) will be provided for each screening station and will be disinfected before an event, between each participant and after an event.
- Any participants who suspect they have COVID-19 or are showing symptoms of COVID-19 will be directed to contact their doctor or an authorized health care provider and will not be vaccinated.

NOTES

- Our vendors do not have access to individual group benefits.
- Based on regulation, all participants receive information related to the flu vaccine and flu season from the vendors.
- To confirm pharmacy eligibility, please contact Excellus BCBS' Pharmacy Help Desk or confirm via www.excellusbcbs.com.