



Vaccine Financial and Billing Policy

The majority of vaccines administered at Performance Pediatrics are provided by the State of Massachusetts. These vaccines are given to all patients according to the recommended schedule at no cost to the patient or to their insurance company. There are three exceptions to this rule:

1) Certain vaccines funded by the government are to be given only to children eligible under the Vaccine for Children (VFC) program. Eligible children include those who are on Medicaid (MassHealth), are of Native American or Eskimo descent, or are uninsured. Children who are not VFC eligible may receive these vaccines but their insurance company will be billed for the vaccine, and if the insurance company does not cover the vaccine the family will be responsible for the cost. These vaccines include:

- Gardasil: 3 doses recommended for all children 11 years old and over

2) Certain vaccines will be provided to all patients by the state but only at certain ages. If a child misses the vaccine at the scheduled age the state will not pay for "catch-up" vaccines. Children who are VFC eligible will be provided catch-up vaccines without charge, but all others will be billed for the vaccine. These vaccines include:

- Menacatra: Offered to all children at 11-12 years of age
- Tdap: Offered to all children at 11-12 years of age
- Varicella: Offered to all children 12-15 months and a second dose at 4-6 years or 11-12 years

3) The state provides a limited amount of flu vaccine every year. If they do not provide our practice with enough flu vaccine for our patients we may purchase more and will then bill for the vaccine. Flu vaccine, when available, will be provided to VFC eligible patients without charge.