Information about Vaccines for Eligible Veterans

Subject: Vaccines are available in the community to eligible Veterans

Select Adult Immunizations (vaccines) available at VA are now available at 70,000+ community retail pharmacy locations.

Access to select VA approved vaccines (Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal, and RSV) are available to eligible Veterans at all VA Medical Centers and more than 70,000 in-network community retail pharmacies. VA should be the primary option for Veteran vaccination, however if the VA is not a reasonable option for the Veteran, the Community Care Network retail pharmacies are available.

Flu and COVID-19 vaccines do not follow the process illustrated below and do not require referral or prescription to be administered at an in-network retail pharmacy National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Home (va.gov) or visit www.prevention.va.gov/index.asp(va.gov).

Eligible Veterans with an existing approved community care referral are authorized to receive VA approved vaccines (Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal, and RSV) at in-network retail pharmacies with a prescription. If a Veteran needs one of the VA approved adult immunizations listed above, community care providers should send a prescription for the vaccine directly to an in-network retail pharmacy to allow for administration.

When a VA provider prescribes the vaccine (Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal, and RSV), only a prescription is required; no Community Care referral is needed. On the next page are the required steps for Veterans.

VA Community Care Network Providers By Region
Optum (Regions 1-3) Process for Veterans

Step 1: Obtain Veteran Pharmacy Preference

- The Veteran’s provider establishes that they require a vaccine prescription (Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal, and RSV ONLY), the first step is determining their preferred pharmacy. Veterans can check (Find VA Locations| Veterans Affairs) or www.va.gov/find-locations/ for participating community pharmacies and communicate preferred pharmacy to their provider. The provider will confirm the Veterans preferred pharmacy is in-network.

Step 2: Provider Submits Prescription

- Your provider will communicate the vaccine prescription to the eligible pharmacy. This can be completed via phone call or fax directly to the pharmacy, or by providing a paper copy of the prescription directly to the Veteran.

Step 3: Veteran Arrives at In-Network Pharmacy

- Provider will give the Optum billing information to the community pharmacy.
- It’s also important for Veterans to scan or take a photo of the community provider billing information code (included at the end of this document) to a mobile device or print and bring the billing information to the vaccine provider.
  - Pharmacies should not use the Rx Group for Flu/ Covid-19 when billing for Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal and RSV.
  - Veterans with an existing active community care referral and prescription from a Community Care provider should use referred care RX Group: Rx3839 for Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal, and RSV.
  - Veterans with a prescription from a VA provider should use Rx Group: Rx4136 for Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal, and RSV.

Step 4: Veteran Receives Vaccine

- Veteran receives covered prescription from an in-network retail pharmacy.
TriWest (Regions 4-5) Process for Veterans

Step 1: Obtain Veteran Pharmacy Preference

- Once a provider establishes that a Veteran requires a vaccine prescription (Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal, and RSV ONLY), the first step is determining their preferred pharmacy. Veterans can check (Find VA Locations | Veterans Affairs) or www.va.gov/find-locations/ for participating community pharmacies and communicate preferred pharmacy to the provider. The provider will confirm the Veterans preferred pharmacy is in-network.

Step 2: Provider Submits Prescription

- Your provider will communicate the vaccine prescription to the eligible pharmacy. This can be completed via phone call or fax directly to the pharmacy, or by providing a paper copy of the prescription directly to the Veteran.

Step 3: Veteran Arrives at In-Network Pharmacy

- Provider will give the TriWest billing information to the community pharmacy.
- It's also important for Veterans to scan or take a photo of the community provider billing information code (included at the end of this document) to a mobile device or print and bring the billing information to the vaccine provider.
  - Pharmacies should not use the Rx Group for Flu/ Covid-19 when billing for Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal and RSV.
  - Veterans with an existing active community care referral and prescription from a Community Care provider should use referred care RX Group: VETERAN for Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal, and RSV.
  - Veterans with a prescription from a VA provider should use Rx Group: VETERAN for Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal, and RSV.

Step 4: Veteran Receives Vaccine

- Veteran receives covered prescription from an in-network retail pharmacy.
Resources and Support

- Adult Immunization | Billing Information
- Adult Vaccination for Healthcare Professionals Home | CDC
- Flu Shots - National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (va.gov)
- Questions? Veterans should contact their local VA Medical Center.

Optum (Regions 1-3) Billing Information

It's also important for Veterans to scan or take a photo of this community provider billing information code to a mobile device or print and bring this billing information to the vaccine provider.

- Pharmacies should not use the Rx Group for Flu/ Covid-19 when billing for Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal and RSV.
- Veterans with an existing active community care referral and prescription from a Community Care provider should use referred care RX Group: Rx3839 for Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal, and RSV.
- Veterans with a prescription from a VA provider should use Rx Group: Rx4136 for Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal, and RSV.
TriWest (Regions 4-5) Billing Information

It’s also important for Veterans to scan or take a photo of this community provider billing information code to a mobile device or print and bring this billing information to the vaccine provider.

- **Pharmacies should not use the Rx Group for Flu/ Covid-19 when billing for Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal and RSV.**

- **Veterans with an existing active community care referral and prescription from a Community Care provider should use referred care RX Group: VETERAN for Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal, and RSV.**

- **Veterans with a prescription from a VA provider should use Rx Group: VETERAN for Tdap, zoster, pneumococcal, and RSV.**

Thank you,
VHA Office of Integrated Care