
POLICY DETERMINATION



Nonprofit corporations and independent licensees
of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

***Current Policy Effective Date: 7/1/21**
(See policy history boxes for previous effective dates)

Title: Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, 20 valent (PREVNAR 20™)

Brief Description of Service:

In December 2020, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration accepted Pfizer's 20-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV20) for priority review. PCV20 contains the 13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV13) components and 7 additional conjugates (for serotypes 8, 10A, 11A, 12F, 15B, 22F, and 33F), extending pneumococcal serotype coverage. Pivotal Phase 3 data of the evaluation of PCV in adults support that PCV20 will be protective against pneumococcal disease.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved this vaccine (also known as PREVNAR 20) on June 8, 2021 for adults 18 years of age and older.

The CPT code for this vaccine is effective 7/1/21.

On January 28, 2022, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) published:
Use of 15-Valent Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine and 20-Valent Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine Among U.S. Adults: Updated Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices - United States, 2022

"Adults aged 19–64 years with certain underlying medical conditions or other risk factors who have not previously received pneumococcal conjugate vaccine or whose previous vaccination history is unknown should receive 1 dose of PCV20.

Adults aged ≥65 years who have not previously received pneumococcal conjugate vaccine whose previous vaccination history is unknown should receive 1 dose of PCV20."

Recommendation:

The pneumococcal conjugate 20-valent vaccine (PREVNAR 20™) is established. It has been approved by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration.

CPT/HCPCS Level II Codes *(Note: The inclusion of a code in this list is not a guarantee of coverage. Please refer to the medical policy statement to determine the status of a given procedure.)*

Established codes:

90677

Other codes (investigational, not medically necessary, etc.):

NA

References:

1. Essink B, Sabharwal C, Xu X, et al. Phase 3 Pivotal Evaluation of 20-valent Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV20) Safety, Tolerability, and Immunologic Noninferiority in Participants 18 Years and Older. Open Forum Infectious Diseases. Vol 7; issue supplement October 1, 2020, Page 52. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7776078/> Accessed 5/12/21.
2. U.S. Food & Drug Administration. Approval letter for Pneumococcal 20-valent Conjugate Vaccine. <https://www.fda.gov/media/150021/download>
3. Kobayashi M, Farrar JL, Gierke R, et al. Use of 15-Valent Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine and 20-Valent Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine Among U.S. Adults: Updated Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — United States, 2022. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2022;71:109–117. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7104a1> Accessed 1/31/22.

Joint BCBSM/BCN Policy Determination History

Policy Effective Date	BCBSM Signature Date	BCN Signature Date	Comments
7/1/21	6/15/21		Joint policy established
7/1/21	2/15/22		From E/I to Established: based on FDA approval, ACIP recommendations, and accepted by CDC & published in MMWR 1/28/2022. This code was not effective until after the FDA approval date; the effective date of this policy is the code effective date. PDF is retired.

Next Review Date: This is an established procedure; it is no longer subject to routine review.