



TRICARE® Vaccine Coverage

TRICARE provides comprehensive coverage of vaccines

TRICARE covers clinical preventive services—which include vaccines—for all beneficiaries. TRICARE covers age-appropriate doses of vaccines that have been recommended and adopted by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices for use in the United States. TRICARE coverage is effective the date the recommendations are published in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. Refer to the CDC's Web site at www.cdc.gov for a current schedule of recommended vaccines.

TRICARE Prime beneficiaries may receive vaccines and other clinical preventive services from their primary care manager or from any network provider without referrals or prior authorizations, at no cost. TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra beneficiaries may receive vaccines from any TRICARE-authorized provider (*network or non-network*) at no cost.

Beneficiaries can also receive TRICARE-covered vaccines from TRICARE retail network pharmacies. TRICARE retail network pharmacies can administer vaccines for measles, mumps, shingles, and many other preventable diseases. The next time you need a vaccine, keep the following points in mind if you would like to visit a TRICARE retail network pharmacy:

- Although all 50 states authorize pharmacists to administer vaccines, state laws vary on which vaccines may be administered in pharmacies. You should contact your pharmacist for more information.
- There is no copayment or cost-share for covered vaccines administered at TRICARE retail network pharmacies.
- TRICARE retail network pharmacies nationwide can administer covered vaccines using the Express Scripts, Inc. (Express Scripts) vaccination program.

For more information, including a TRICARE retail network pharmacy directory and a complete list of vaccines that are covered at pharmacies, please visit www.tricare.mil/vaccines or call Express Scripts at **1-877-363-1303**. To find a TRICARE retail network pharmacy near you, call Express Scripts at **1-877-363-1303** or visit the Express Scripts Pharmacy Locator at www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE/pharmacy.

Note: Vaccines must be administered by a pharmacist at a TRICARE retail network pharmacy to be covered under the TRICARE pharmacy benefit.

COVERAGE OF SPECIFIC VACCINES

TRICARE coverage of several of the most popular vaccines is described below. For a current schedule of recommended vaccines, refer to the CDC's Web site at www.cdc.gov.

Flu Vaccine

There are two forms of flu vaccine distributed in the United States: a shot and a nasal spray. TRICARE covers both and follows the CDC's guidelines. Flu vaccines may be received at no cost from any TRICARE-authorized provider or at one of the TRICARE retail network pharmacies that participates in the vaccination program. To find a participating pharmacy, visit www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE/pharmacy or call **1-877-363-1303**.

The flu shot contains a dead virus and can be given to all patients age 6 months and older. This type of vaccine is safe for pregnant women or women who may become pregnant during the flu season, because it can be used in any trimester. Children between ages 6 months and 8 years receiving the flu vaccine for the first time should receive two doses, with at least four weeks between shots.

*This fact sheet is **not** all-inclusive. For additional information, please visit www.tricare.mil.*

The nasal spray contains a live, weakened virus, and it can be given to healthy people between ages 2 and 49.

While TRICARE recommends that all beneficiaries get vaccinated, it is important to remember that the CDC recognizes certain people are at a higher risk of getting the flu (www.cdc.gov/flu/groups.htm):

- Pregnant women
- Children younger than 5, but especially younger than 2 years old
- People with asthma, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, HIV, or those who have had a stroke
- Adults 65 and older

Human Papillomavirus Vaccine

The human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is a limited benefit and may be covered when the beneficiary has not been previously vaccinated or completed the vaccine series.

- Females: The HPV vaccine Gardasil (HPV4) or Cervarix (HPV2) is covered for females ages 11–26. The series of injections must be completed before age 27 for coverage under TRICARE.
- Males: The HPV vaccine Gardasil (HPV4) is covered for all males ages 11–21 and is covered for males ages 22–26 who meet certain criteria.

Shingles Vaccine

Shingles is a viral disease that affects more than 1 million Americans every year. More than half of those cases occur in people age 60 and older. TRICARE covers the shingles vaccine for beneficiaries 60 and older. The shingles vaccine Zostavax is in high demand. If you would like to receive this vaccine, please check with your provider or pharmacy to ask if it is available.

TRICARE For Life (TFL) beneficiaries: Medicare only covers the shingles vaccine under Medicare Part D (*prescription drug plan*). For TFL beneficiaries who do not have Medicare Part D, TRICARE is the primary payer for the vaccine. Beneficiaries may receive the shingles vaccine from any TRICARE-authorized provider (*network or non-network*) or from a TRICARE retail network pharmacy.

Note: Medicare-eligible TRICARE beneficiaries are not eligible for no-cost preventive services, including vaccines, from TRICARE. For these beneficiaries, deductibles and cost-shares apply when receiving TRICARE-covered clinical preventive services that are not covered by Medicare.

NON-COVERED VACCINES

Vaccines recommended specifically for travel outside the United States are not covered, except for vaccines required for active duty family members whose sponsors have permanent change-of-station orders to overseas locations. These vaccines are covered as outpatient office visits.

Note: You must include a copy of the sponsor's change-of-station orders when filing the claim.

FOR INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

<p> TRICARE North Region Health Net Federal Services, LLC 1-877-TRICARE (1-877-874-2273) www.hnfs.com</p>	<p> TRICARE South Region Humana Military, a division of Humana Government Business 1-800-444-5445 HumanaMilitary.com</p>	<p> TRICARE West Region UnitedHealthcare Military & Veterans 1-877-988-WEST (1-877-988-9378) www.uhcmilitarywest.com</p>
<p> TRICARE Overseas Program (TOP) Regional Call Center—Eurasia-Africa¹ +44-20-8762-8384 (<i>overseas</i>) 1-877-678-1207 (<i>stateside</i>) tricarelon@internationalsos.com</p>	<p> TOP Regional Call Center—Latin America and Canada¹ +1-215-942-8393 (<i>overseas</i>) 1-877-451-8659 (<i>stateside</i>) tricarephi@internationalsos.com</p>	<p> TOP Regional Call Centers—Pacific¹ Singapore: +65-6339-2676 (<i>overseas</i>) 1-877-678-1208 (<i>stateside</i>) sin.tricare@internationalsos.com Sydney: +61-2-9273-2710 (<i>overseas</i>) 1-877-678-1209 (<i>stateside</i>) sydricare@internationalsos.com</p>
<p>TRICARE Web Site www.tricare.mil</p>	<p>TRICARE Pharmacy Program 1-877-363-1303 www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE www.tricare.mil/pharmacy Express Scripts Member Choice Center (<i>convert retail prescriptions to home delivery</i>) 1-877-363-1433</p>	<p>Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS)—Update Information 1-800-538-9552 1-831-655-8317 (<i>fax</i>) www.tricare.mil/deers</p>

1. For toll-free contact information, visit www.tricare-overseas.com.

An Important Note About TRICARE Program Information

At the time of publication, this information is current. It is important to remember that TRICARE policies and benefits are governed by public law and federal regulations. Changes to TRICARE programs are continually made as public law and/or federal regulations are amended. **Military hospital and clinic guidelines and policies may be different than those outlined in this publication.** For the most recent information, contact your TRICARE regional contractor or local military hospital or clinic. The TRICARE program meets the minimum essential coverage requirement under the Affordable Care Act. TRICARE is a registered trademark of the Department of Defense, Defense Health Agency. All rights reserved.