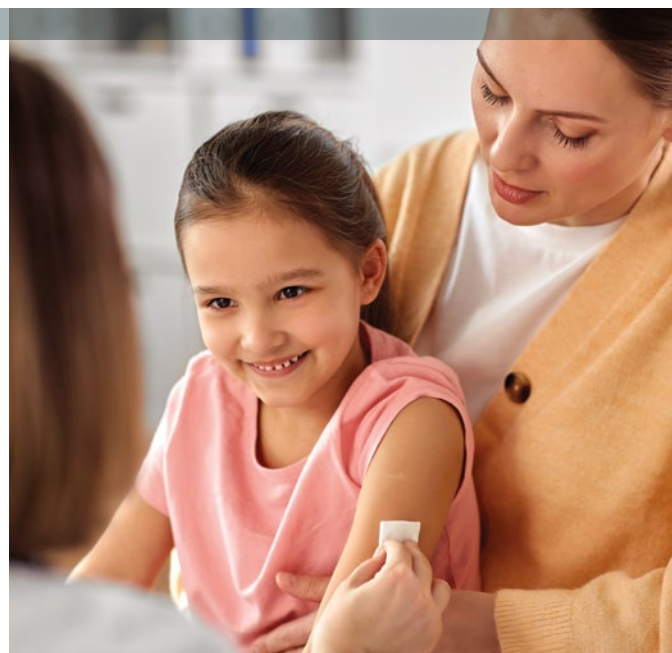




Health Insurers and Third-Party Administrators COMPLIANCE GUIDE



In Partnership With:
Washington State Department of
HEALTH



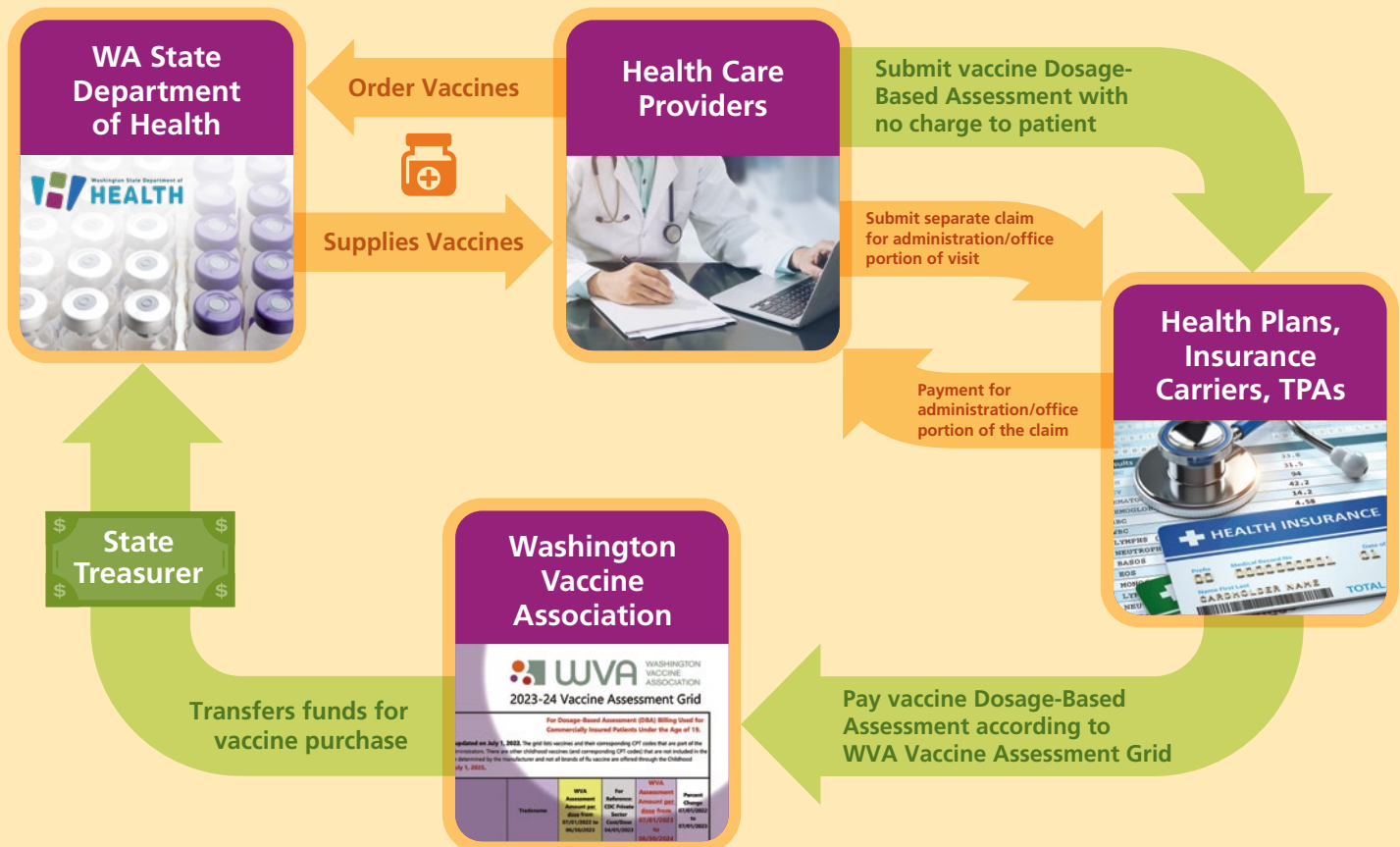
Ensuring Funds for Childhood Vaccines

The WA DOH uses funding from the federal Vaccine for Children Program (VFC), state Medicaid, and WVA assessments to purchase vaccines at federal contract rates and distribute them to physicians, hospitals, and other providers at no cost to providers or patients through the CVP.

- All children to have access to recommended vaccines.
- Payers to participate in an efficient, cost-effective system to facilitate childhood vaccinations at no cost to their members.
- Medical providers to have a blended vaccine stock versus the need to segregate publicly and privately-funded vaccine stocks.
- Medical providers to avoid the burdens associated with purchasing vaccines on their own.

- Enrolling in the WA DOH CVP and using state-supplied vaccine material.
- Accurately submitting the Dosage-Based Assessment (DBA) to payers alongside administrative claims. This critical step allows physicians, clinics, hospitals, other providers, and their patients to receive vaccines for all children at no cost.
- Ensuring providers and payers do not bill patients for any portion of the vaccine material, regardless of how the payer processes the submitted DBA.

HOW FUNDING WORKS

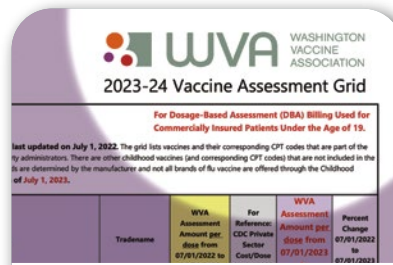




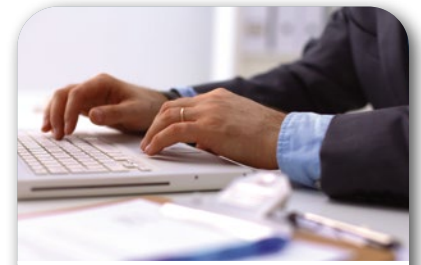
Follow these three easy steps to achieve compliance with the WVA's DBA requirements:



1 UNDERSTAND THE BASICS



2 SET UP ADJUDICATION SYSTEMS



3 FOLLOW UP ON FINAL DETAILS

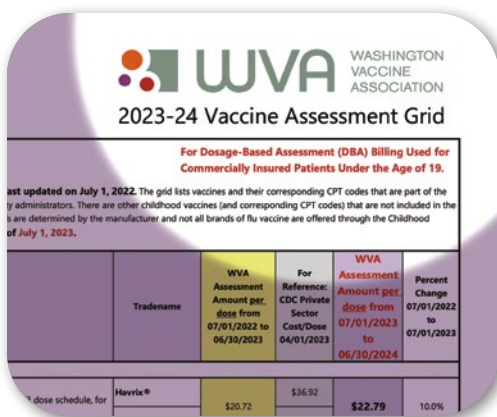
This checklist is intended to assist health insurers and third-party administrators (TPA) achieve compliance with the Dosage-Based Assessment (DBA) requirements of the Washington Vaccine Association's (WVA) governing statute (Chapter 70.290 RCW) and Plan of Operation. It should be used by health insurers and TPAs to evaluate and ensure their internal adjudication systems have been set up to accommodate the WVA DBA process.



1 UNDERSTAND THE BASICS

- ☐ Washington State providers submit DBAs on behalf of the WVA to the health insurers and TPAs that then remit payment for pediatric vaccines (under 19 years of age) to the WVA. **The WVA receives payments from health insurers and TPAs only, not from providers or patients.**
- ☐ Health insurers and TPAs should only remit payment for codes on the Vaccine Assessment Grid ("Grid"), wavaccine.org/assessment-grid/, to the WVA's TIN (27-2251833). **Note: The Grid amount is based upon date of service (DOS).** If upon review, the health insurer or TPA finds vaccine payments are being made to TINs other than WVA's for vaccine material, the payer should request that the provider rebill the DBAs under the correct TIN.
- ☐ The WVA's TIN (27-2251833) and NPI (1699092718) should not be set up to process DBAs as an out-of-network (OON) benefit. The WVA works closely with the WA Department of Health (WA DOH), which manages provider enrollment agreements in the Childhood Vaccine Program (CVP). As long as the provider submitting the DBA is enrolled with the CVP, the DBA should be paid at the listed Grid amount. Common Claim Adjustment Reason Codes (CARCs) used when payers' systems incorrectly adjudicate DBAs as OON include 242, 243, and 279.

*** The DBA is an assessment under the WVA Act, and although it is not a medical claim, it is processed through the health insurers' and TPAs' claims adjudication systems.**



2023-24 Vaccine Assessment Grid

For Dosage-Based Assessment (DBA) Billing Used for Commercially Insured Patients Under the Age of 19.

last updated on July 1, 2022. The grid lists vaccines and their corresponding CPT codes that are part of the vaccine schedule. There are other childhood vaccines (and corresponding CPT codes) that are not included in the grid. These are determined by the manufacturer and not all brands of flu vaccine are offered through the Childhood Immunization System as of July 1, 2023.

Tradename	WVA Assessment Amount per dose from 07/01/2022 to 06/30/2023	For Reference: CDC Private Sector Cost/Dose 04/01/2023	WVA Assessment Amount per dose from 07/01/2023 to 06/30/2024	Percent Change 07/01/2022 to 07/01/2023
1 dose schedule, for				
Harvix®	\$20.72	\$36.92	\$22.79	10.0%

✱ Current and historic Grid amounts for each CPT and corresponding NDC can be found on the WVA website in PDF and Excel formats: wavaccine.org/assessment-grid/.

✱ Payment to the WVA is the Grid amount as of the date of service.



✱ Review your adjudication system setup to ensure no patient responsibility occurs for pediatric patient vaccines for vaccines billed for patients under age 19 under the WVA's TIN (27-2251833) and NPI (1699092718).

2 SET UP ADJUDICATION SYSTEMS

Vaccine Grid Adherence

- ☐ The WVA should only receive payment for CPT codes listed on the Grid. Incorrectly paid DBAs will require reversals and adjustments.
- ☐ The correct DBA amounts (fee schedule), taken from the Grid corresponding to the date of service, should be reviewed annually as the Grids are in effect from July 1 to June 30 each year. If vaccines are added off-cycle, the WVA will provide a sixty-day (60) notice.
- ☐ Health insurers and TPAs are required to pay the WVA the correct and full Grid amount as of the date of service, regardless of how the DBA is submitted by the provider.
- ☐ Any logic to pay at the lesser of charge or allowed amounts should be turned off for the WVA TIN as the Grid amount should be the paid amount.

No Patient Responsibility

- ☐ Patients are not responsible for any portion of the DBA payment to the WVA. The DBA should be adjudicated without contractual adjustments that would result in patient responsibility (e.g., deductibles, co-payments, coinsurances) for vaccine material listed on the Grid. The amount of the DBA is not dependent on the terms of coverage under the applicable benefit plan (e.g., deductibles or limitation on vaccine coverage). Common CARCs used when systems incorrectly adjudicate DBAs resulting in patient responsibility include: 1, 2, 3, 35, 100, 119, 149, 170, 171, 172, and 187.
- ☐ The health insurer or TPA is responsible for monitoring any patient payments remitted to the WVA and for subsequently requesting a refund from the WVA in order to reimburse the patient. Third-party payment vendors associated with the health insurer's or TPA's patient-facing portals should be identified and queried to determine any patient payments made incorrectly to the WVA. This includes FSA/HSA spending accounts.
- ☐ The WVA can only exchange funds in terms of payments and refunds with health insurers and TPAs, not payments to and from patients or providers. Patient or provider funds received by the WVA require refund processing initiated by the payer and provider.

Continued »



* If your compliance officer contact has changed, please notify compliance@wavaccine.org.

Timely Filing Limit Does Not Apply

☐ As the DBA is an assessment and not a medical DBA, there is no time limit as to when a DBA may be submitted. Health insurers and TPAs should remove timely filing denial edits in their adjudication systems. Common CARCs used when systems incorrectly adjudicate DBAs resulting in timely filing denials include 164, 210, and 226.

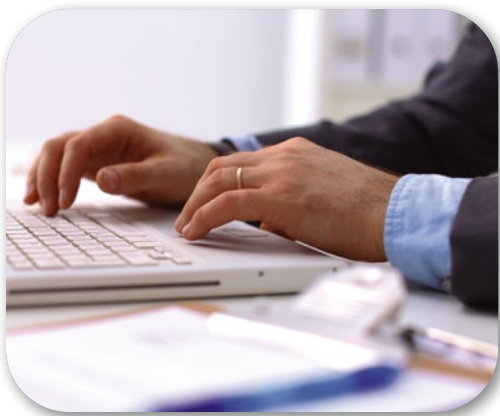
Electronic Remittance Advices (ERAs/835s) and ACH Payments

☐ Health insurers and TPAs interested in enabling electronic remittances and/or ACH payments can contact the WVA at EDI@wavaccine.org. While the WVA primarily works with the Availity clearinghouse to receive 835 remittance files and set up ACH payments, the WVA has additional relationships with numerous clearinghouses (e.g., Change Healthcare, CAQH, Zelis, PaySpan, PNC, ECHO, Office Ally, InstaMed, and OptumPay).

Reprocessing DBAs

☐ The WVA does not accept takebacks, vouchers, or offsets from payers when DBAs are reprocessed by health insurers and TPAs seeking reimbursement for overpaid DBAs.

☐ If a health insurer or TPA is planning to reprocess DBAs in bulk, please contact the WVA at compliance@wavaccine.org to make arrangements (e.g., a lump payment with DBA-specific notation). This will reduce manual refund check processing costs and will provide the WVA with a DBA-level detail file.



Questions may be directed to compliance@wavaccine.org.

3 FOLLOW-UP ON FINAL DETAILS

☐ If a provider cannot separate the provider's vaccine administration fee from the vaccine material cost (DBA) or the provider does not bill for vaccine material at all, the health insurer or TPA must produce a settlement report, not less than every quarter, and remit payment to the WVA with remittance detail. Please contact compliance@wavaccine.org with any questions.

☐ Per statute (RCW 70.290.075), TPAs are required to register and maintain contact information on the WVA's TPA Registration Portal found at: wavaccine.org/registration-requirements/.

☐ The WVA is a non-profit entity that does not require a 1099. A WVA W-9 may be downloaded from our website if required: wavaccine.org/other-resources-and-links/.

Stay connected.

Sign up to stay informed at
www.wavaccine.org/contact/

To stay up to date with WA DOH Childhood Vaccine Program changes and WVA Vaccine Assessment Grid changes, please sign up for the WA DOH Vaccine Blurb email list by emailing your request to WACHildhoodVaccines@doh.wa.gov.

Vaccine *Blurbs*



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