

Temporary Medical Exemption COVID-19



A programme by **WellSouth**

Intended Purpose

In some situations, health and disability, education and corrections workers may be able to get an exemption from being vaccinated against COVID-19. However, there are very few situations where vaccination is contraindicated and, as such, a medical exemption is expected to be rarely required.

Last Updated: 24/01/2024

Eligibility

COVID-19 vaccine exemption criteria:

- Acute illness—Recent COVID-19 infection, acute moderate to severe illness, or high dose immunosuppressives; or
- Significant adverse reaction to previous dose; or
- Pre-existing condition impacting on vaccination.

Exclusions

- Not eligible for a GMS Clawback.
- Claiming is limited to one type of claim per person, per day, per practice.
- No simultaneous claiming against other funding streams.

Key Information

- Exemptions will be limited to situations where a suitable alternative to the COVID-19 vaccine is not readily available for the individual.
- Exemptions will be for a specified time, reflecting, for example, recovery from clinical conditions or the availability of alternate vaccines.
- It is likely that most people who are not medically exempt can be safely vaccinated, with some requiring extra precautions.
- The application may only be on the grounds that the person meets the [specified exemption criteria](#). The application is submitted to the temporary medical exemptions panel run by the Ministry of Health. Which includes medical and nurse practitioners and a Māori health leader.

Claiming

Claiming is via the WellSouth PHN portal.

COVID-19	New Third Dose Consult For Immunocompromised Patients
	New Vaccine Adverse Event Assessment
	New Medical Exemption Consult
	New Novavax Consult
	New Vaccine Consult

Service codes for your PMS

Service codes for your PMS—please set these up prior to using the programme.

Code	Amount (incl. GST)	Description
COVESM	\$69.00 (Standard)	COV Exmp Simple
COVECP	\$138.00 (Complex)	COV Exmp Complex

Payment Rates (excl. GST)

\$60.00 + GST Standard (Virtual assessment without patient exam)

\$120.00 + GST Complex (In-person assessment with patient exam)

Can a co-payment be charged?

No co-payment can be charged.

When does the claim need to be completed?

Claiming must be completed within 2 months of the consult.

If your PMS is aligned to the WellSouth Clinical BCTIs, please contact practicenetwork@wellsouth.org.nz with your new Account Internal ID.

For further information regarding this programme please contact practicenetwork@wellsouth.org.nz or your Primary Care Relationship Manager.