



# *Medicare & Primary Immunodeficiency*

Thursday, June 2, 2022





# DISCLAIMER

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*Immune Deficiency Foundation (IDF) education events offer a wide array of educational presentations, including presentations developed by healthcare and life management professionals invited to serve as presenters. The views and opinions expressed by guest speakers do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of IDF.*

*The information presented during this event is not medical advice, nor is it intended to be a substitute for medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Always seek the advice of a physician or other qualified health provider with questions concerning a medical condition. Never disregard professional medical advice, or delay seeking it based on information presented during the event.*





## MISSION

Improving the diagnosis, treatment, and quality of life of people affected by primary immunodeficiency through fostering a community empowered by advocacy, education, and research.



# VISION

IDF seeks to ensure that everyone in the U.S. affected by PI has a fully informed understanding of

1. the PI diagnosis that affects them,
2. all available treatment options,
3. the expected standard of care,
4. all their opportunities for connection and support within the PI community.



Questions?



<https://community.primaryimmune.org/s/newask>

800-296-4433

# Get Connected Groups

<https://primaryimmune.org/support-services>

Virtual groups exclusively for individuals & families living with PI



# Medicare Insurance & PI

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[primaryimmune.org](http://primaryimmune.org)

# MEDICARE BASICS

- **Part A** – Hospital Coverage
- **Part B** – Medical Coverage
- **Part C** – Medicare Advantage Plans offered by private companies.
  - Includes Part A, Part B, and (most plans) even Part D.
- **Part D** – Prescription Drug
- **Part F and Part G** – Medicare Supplemental Coverage (Medigap)
  - Part F is no longer offered to **new** enrollees (effective in 2020)



# Eligibility & Initial Enrollment

Medicare Part A and Part B are available to those who are:

- Age 65 or older
- Disabled

# Important Dates

Medicare Open Enrollment for 2023

October 15 – December 7, 2022

for January 1, 2023 start date



# Medicare Ig Coverage

Many options available so investigate to see what will work best for you

- Ig therapy is covered under the Part B medical benefit at 80%
- Medigap (Part F or G) is needed to help with remaining 20%
- Medicare Advantage Plans (Part C) are sold as an “all in one” plan
  - These plans now have the option to apply step therapy
  - IDF has heard from many patients on Advantage plans where treatments are only covered at 80%.
  - Not eligible to have a Medicare Supplementary (Medigap) plan if enrolled in an Advantage plan

**Make sure you know the coverage before enrolling!**

# Medicare Ig Coverage

## Conditions for Part B coverage

Code	Condition	Code	Condition
G11.3	Cerebellar ataxia with defective DNA repair	D81.6	Major histocompatibility complex class I deficiency
D80.0	Hereditary hypogammaglobulinemia	D81.7	Major histocompatibility complex class II deficiency
D80.2	Selective deficiency of immunoglobulin A [IgA]	D81.89	Other combined immunodeficiencies
D80.3	Selective deficiency of immunoglobulin G [IgG] subclasses	D81.9	Combined immunodeficiency, unspecified
D80.4	Selective deficiency of immunoglobulin M [IgM]	D82.0	Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome
D80.5	Immunodeficiency with increased immunoglobulin M [IgM]	D82.1	Di George's syndrome
D80.6	Antibody deficiency with near-normal immunoglobulins or with hyperimmunoglobulinemia	D82.4	Hyperimmunoglobulin E [IgE] syndrome
D80.7	Transient hypogammaglobulinemia of infancy	D83.0	Common variable immunodeficiency with predominant abnormalities of B-cell numbers and function
D81.0	Severe combined immunodeficiency [SCID] with reticular dysgenesis	D83.1	Common variable immunodeficiency with predominant immunoregulatory T-cell disorders
D81.1	Severe combined immunodeficiency [SCID] with low T- and B-cell numbers	D83.2	Common variable immunodeficiency with autoantibodies to B- or T-cells
D81.2	Severe combined immunodeficiency [SCID] with low or normal B-cell numbers	D83.8	Other common variable immunodeficiencies
D81.5	Purine nucleoside phosphorylase [PNP] deficiency	D83.9	Common variable immunodeficiency, unspecified



# J-Code Therapy List

Code	Therapy description
J1459	INJECTION, IMMUNE GLOBULIN (PRIVIGEN), INTRAVENOUS, NON-LYOPHILIZED (E.G., LIQUID), 500 MG
J1460	gamma globulin
J1554	INJECTION, IMMUNE GLOBULIN (ASCENIV), 500 MG
J1555	immune globulin (Cuvitru)
J1556	INJECTION, IMMUNE GLOBULIN (BIVIGAM), 500 MG
J1557	INJECTION, IMMUNE GLOBULIN, (GAMMAPLEX), INTRAVENOUS, NON-LYOPHILIZED (E.G., LIQUID), 500 MG
J1558	immune globulin (Xembify)
J1559	immune globulin (Hizentra)
J1560	gamma globulin
J1561	INJECTION, IMMUNE GLOBULIN, (GAMUNEX-C/GAMMAKED), NON-LYOPHILIZED (E.G., LIQUID), 500 MG
J1566	INJECTION, IMMUNE GLOBULIN, INTRAVENOUS, LYOPHILIZED (E.G., POWDER), NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED, 500 MG
J1568	INJECTION, IMMUNE GLOBULIN, (OCTAGAM), INTRAVENOUS, NON-LYOPHILIZED (E.G., LIQUID), 500 MG
J1569	INJECTION, IMMUNE GLOBULIN, (GAMMAGARD LIQUID), NON-LYOPHILIZED, (E.G., LIQUID), 500 MG
J1572	INJECTION, IMMUNE GLOBULIN, (FLEBOGAMMA/FLEBOGAMMA DIF), INTRAVENOUS, NON-LYOPHILIZED (E.G., LIQUID), 500 MG
J1575	(HyQvia)
J1599†	INJECTION, IMMUNE GLOBULIN, INTRAVENOUS, NON-LYOPHILIZED (E.G., LIQUID), NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED, 500 MG

# Coverage for Home IVIG therapy

- Since 2014 the Medicare IVIG Demonstration (Demo) has allowed thousands of Medicare beneficiaries with primary immunodeficiency (PI) to receive lifesaving IVIG in their home.
- Congress extended the Demo twice, in 2017 and 2020.
- CMS must submit a report to Congress by the end of 2022, so its value can be analyzed before it expires on December 31, 2023.
- Private insurers routinely cover in-home IVIG because of its cost-effectiveness
- IDF will work to introduce legislation for a permanent home IVIG Medicare benefit in 2023.



# Medicare IVIG Demo Enrollment

- Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until Medicare reaches the statutory limit on funding and/or enrollment (6,500 beneficiaries) through 2023.
- In order to be enrolled in the Demo a beneficiary must:
  - Be covered under Medicare Fee-For-Service and enrolled in Part B,
  - Have a PI,
  - Receive treatment by intravenous infusion, and
  - Not be currently covered under a home health episode of care.
- Details on how to apply for enrollment can be found at <https://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/ivig/beneficiaries> or google IVIG Demonstration - Noridian

**Every Plan Is  
Different:**

**Comparing Plans  
and Coverage  
Details**





# Need Help Comparing Plans ?

## Health Insurance Basics

For people with PI, dealing with health insurance and understanding the maze of issues involved can be overwhelming. Often health insurers require additional paperwork to justify the use of the therapy prescribed. Added red tape and follow up phone calls can be frustrating. Even individuals who have adequate insurance coverage often face expensive insurance premiums or high co-payments or coinsurance.

If you are confused about insurance options, or simply lacking affordable health insurance start here to learn the basics and frequently used terms.

[Health Insurance Basics](#)

[Glossary Of Terms](#)

<https://primaryimmune.org/living-pi/patient-insurance-center>



### HOW TO CHOOSE A PLAN

Understanding your plan can have a huge impact on your health and your finances. The IDF Health Insurance Toolkit will help you make the best possible choice in selecting a plan.

[Learn More](#)



### HOW TO APPEAL A DENIAL

IDF has developed tips to help explain the importance of Ig therapy and overcome denials. These ideas have been successful in overturning many denials for others and may be useful for you.

[Learn More](#)



### AAAAI IVIG TOOLKIT

This toolkit created by the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI) includes recommendations and guidelines on the safe, effective and appropriate use of IVIG.

[Download Toolkit](#)

<https://primaryimmune.org/ask-idf>

# Managing Costs

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- Assistance Programs for Medicare beneficiaries:
  - Copay & Premium – The Assistance Fund - <https://tafcares.org/>
  - Premium – PSI - <https://www.patientservicesinc.org/>
- Hardship/Assistance programs offered by your infusion provider:
  - Specialty Pharmacies
  - Home Healthcare Companies
  - Infusion Centers

\* Discount Cards cannot be used by Medicare recipients\*\*\*

# Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Care

- Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance)
- Covers skilled nursing care for a limited time (on a short-term basis) if all of these conditions apply:
- You have Part A and have days left in your benefit period to use.
- You have a qualifying inpatient hospital stay including rehabilitation.
- The issue- Medicare pays a bundled rate for all care in a SNF. This payment is inadequate for SCIG or IVIG coverage.
- SNF's either admit patients and refuse to provide Ig or refuse admission to PI patients in need of Ig therapy.
- IDF is working with our legislative champions to introduce a bill to tackle the issue by providing an added payment



# Have more Questions?

[primaryimmune.org/ask-idf](http://primaryimmune.org/ask-idf)

800-296-4433

ATTEND A VIRTUAL EVENT

For a list of upcoming forums, visit:

[www.primaryimmune.org/events](http://www.primaryimmune.org/events)



# THANK YOU!

**Lynn Albizo, JD**

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**Immune Deficiency Foundation**



# THANK YOU, FEATURED SPONSORS!

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**CSL Behring**

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From all of us at IDF

Thank You!

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You make the IDF community stronger

