

WINTER CAMPAIGN

Discovery Health
2026





Winter campaign in 2026

You are a valuable partner in helping us to keep the members of the schemes we administer healthy. One of the ways in which we do this is by advocating for and covering the cost of vaccines.

- While the **flu vaccine** is beneficial to everyone, some people are more vulnerable to severe infections and complications from the seasonal influenza virus. The National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) and the World Health Organization (WHO) recommend yearly vaccination, especially for those who are at higher risk.
- This year, we are also including the **pneumococcal vaccine** in our campaign to protect high-risk members from *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, a bacterium that is responsible for serious life-threatening conditions like meningitis, pneumonia and sepsis.

High-risk criteria for the flu vaccine

People at high risk for influenza are those who are 65 years old or older, who are pregnant or who are registered on the Chronic Illness Benefit for one of the following chronic conditions:

- Asthma
- Bronchiectasis
- Cardiac failure
- Cardiomyopathy
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
- Chronic renal disease
- Coronary artery disease
- Diabetes (types 1 and 2)
- HIV

High-risk criteria for the pneumococcal vaccine

People at high risk for *Streptococcus pneumoniae* are those who are 65 years old or older, or who are registered on the Chronic Illness Benefit for one of the following chronic conditions:

- Cardiomyopathy
- Cardiac failure

Please note:

- We need a doctor's prescription for a pneumococcal vaccine.
- Pneumococcal vaccinations are usually once-off. We recommend them only for members at risk who have not had the vaccine before. In some cases, a doctor may recommend another dose depending on the patient's health history.
- Doctor oversight is also needed to assess other health conditions, risks and medical history. Pneumococcal vaccines are not routinely given during pregnancy. They may be considered in specific high-risk cases after medical evaluation.



How we pay for the flu and pneumococcal vaccines

Vaccines for high-risk members

- For qualifying members of Discovery Health Medical Scheme (administered by Discovery Health), we cover the **flu and pneumococcal vaccines** (listed on page 4) from their **Screening and Prevention Benefit**. The cost of the vaccine does not affect the high-risk member's day-to-day benefits.
- The **administration fee** for administering the vaccine is paid from the available money in the member's **Medical Savings Account**. If the member does not have funds available in this account, they will have to pay this fee themselves.
- The **doctor's visit** for the **pneumococcal vaccine** is paid from the member's available **Medical Savings Account** or from the member's own pocket if they have no funds left in this account.

Vaccines for non-qualifying members

- Both the **vaccine** and the **administration fee** are paid from the available funds in the member's **Medical Savings Account**.
- If the member does not have a Medical Savings Account or they do not have enough funds, they must pay the full amount for both the **vaccine** itself and its **administration**.

Working with us on the flu campaign

We want to ask you to join us in the winter campaign. We will communicate directly with high-risk members. We'll remind that flu vaccinations can continue until the end of the flu season.

Our drive for this year will include:

- Providing you with a **list of your pharmacy's script numbers for high-risk members** who qualify for flu vaccines. If you would like a copy of the list, please email Provider_administration@discovery.co.za with your BHF number. This list only applies for the flu vaccine.
- Nudging qualifying high-risk members to get the flu vaccination by adding this as a **next best action** through their Personal Health Pathways in the Discovery Health app.

Working with us on the pneumococcal campaign

This vaccination is not seasonal and can be given any time of the year.

This year's drive will include:

- Adding the pneumococcal vaccination as a **next best action** for qualifying high-risk members through their Personal Health Pathways in the Discovery Health app
- Making it clear to high-risk members **that they need a prescription** before they can get the pneumococcal vaccine. If they do not have a doctor's prescription, the vaccination will be covered from their Medical Savings Account or Over-The-Counter Benefit, or they will have to pay for it themselves.

We'll ask the pharmacy to:

- Keep pneumococcal vaccines in stock during the campaign
- Support members throughout the vaccination process.



Please note: For the pneumococcal vaccine, we do not have a list of script numbers of high-risk members. High-risk members will take their doctor's prescription to the dispensary.

How to claim for the flu and pneumococcal vaccine

You can submit claims for both the flu and pneumococcal vaccines using the relevant NAPPI codes on DHS Switch (MediSwitch), following the standard process. We will pay you from the appropriate benefit for the member.

To claim the **professional fee for administering the vaccine**, please use:

- NAPPI code: 002201-001
- Procedure code: 0022

This **administration fee** is covered from the member's available **day-to-day benefits** for both qualifying and non-qualifying members. If the member does not have funds, they will have to pay the fee themselves.

Available flu vaccines

The following vaccines are available to be covered for **qualifying high-risk members** from the Screening and Prevention Benefit:

- 732826 Influvac vaccine 3 strain (Abbott) S2
- Vaxigrip trivalent (Pending SAHPRA registration) S2

Available pneumococcal vaccines

The following vaccines are available to be covered for **qualifying high-risk members** from the Screening and Prevention Benefit:

- 715858 Prevenar 13 pre-filled syringe 0.5ml S2
- 3001925 Pneumovax 23 single dose pre-filled syringe 0.5ml S4