

Provider billing guidance

As of Nov. 18, 2020

COVID-19 testing and testing-related services

- State and federal mandates, as well as self-insured customer benefit plan designs, may supersede the guidelines listed below.
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines for place of service may vary.
- Cost share will be waived for testing and testing-related services through the national public health emergency period for physician-ordered test and test-related services specific to the diagnosis of COVID-19.
- Medical providers and pharmacists can view our [Claim Submission Quick Reference Guide](#) to learn more about the claim submission and billing process.

Service	Code(s) to bill	Additional information
Testing-Related Services	ICD-10 Code: Z03.818, Z20.828	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cost share will be waived for testing-related services when billed with diagnosis codes Z03.818 or Z20.828. Billing: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use ICD-10 diagnosis code Z03.818 for suspected exposure to COVID-19, or• Use ICD-10 diagnosis code Z20.828 for exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19.
	Place of Service: (23) Emergency room (20) Urgent care (11) Office visits/telehealth (02) Telehealth as of Jan. 1, 2021	
Specimen Collection	HCPCS Codes: G2023 and G2024	Cost share will be waived for COVID-19-specific specimen collection.
	CPT® Codes: 99001	Cost share will be waived for specimen collection, along with appropriate ICD-10 code of Z03.818 or Z20.828, if not billed with separate E&M charges.
	C9803	Outpatient hospital facility only
Office Visit/Telehealth	Standard E&M Code	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bill with appropriate E&M code.• Use ICD-10 diagnosis code Z03.818 for suspected exposure to COVID-19, or• Use ICD-10 diagnosis code Z20.828 for exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19.

Service	Code(s) to bill	Additional information
COVID-19 Laboratory Testing	Virus Detection Tests: HCPCS/CPT Codes: U0001, U0002, U0003, U0004, 87635	In order to bill these codes, the laboratory must use a test that is developed and administered in accordance with the specifications outlined by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or through state regulatory approval. In addition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U0001, U0002 or 87635: Laboratories must have a valid CLIA ID. • U0003 and U0004: Laboratories must have a valid CLIA ID, as well as CLIA Accreditation, Compliance or Registration certification level. • Use ICD-10 diagnosis code Z11.59 for billing COVID-19 testing for asymptomatic patients prior to inpatient admissions, planned outpatient procedures and immunosuppressant therapies.
	Antibody Tests: CPT Codes: 86328 or 86769	FDA-authorized tests include FDA-approved tests and tests used in an office or lab that are developed and administered in accordance with FDA specifications or through state regulatory approval.
	Antigen Tests: CPT Code: 87426	Use code 87426 for infectious agent antigen detection by immunoassay technique.

COVID-19 treatment

- State and federal mandates, as well as self-insured customer benefit plan designs, may supersede the guidelines listed below.
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines for place of service may vary.
- The cost share waiver for COVID-19 treatment services may vary by health plan. [Learn more.](#)

Service	Code(s) to bill	Additional information
COVID-19 Treatment	Place of Service: 02, 11, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 31, 32, 41, 61, 81	Self-insured customer benefit plans vary based on client design, admissions, planned outpatient procedures and immunosuppressant therapies.
	ICD-10 Code: B97.29 or U07.1	COVID-19 diagnosis codes need to be billed in order for the cost share waiver to be applied.

COVID-19 medical supply code

- UnitedHealthcare’s Supply Policy, Professional reimbursement policies outline the methodology for covered medical expenses and surgical supplies under the following health plans:
 - [Medicare Advantage](#)
 - [Medicaid \(Community Plan\)](#)
 - [Individual and Group Market health plans](#)
- UnitedHealthcare considers CPT 99072 to be bundled with the related office visit. It is not separately reimbursable, whether or not an office visit is billed.

Service	Code(s) to bill	Additional information
Personal Protection Equipment	99072	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use code 99072 when reporting services that include additional supplies and clinical staff time, above those usually included in an office visit or other non-facility service(s), to perform described safety protocols during a national public health emergency period due to respiratory-transmitted infectious disease.

For the most up-to-date provider information, be sure to check UHCprovider.com/covid19.

The information and codes described throughout these pages apply pursuant to federal requirements and UnitedHealthcare national policies during the national public health emergency period. Additional benefits or limitations may apply in some states and under some plans during this time.

We will adjudicate benefits in accordance with the member’s health plan.

Medicaid providers: UnitedHealthcare will reimburse out-of-network providers for COVID-19 testing-related visits and COVID-19-related treatment or services according to the rates outlined in the Medicaid Fee Schedule.

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