



Provider Newsflash



A fax bulletin for the Molina Healthcare of Washington Provider Network

COVID-19 Provider Resources for Apple Health HCA Updated Policy Effective 10/1/2021 (Medicaid)

Dear Provider,

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, Molina Healthcare wants to remind our providers that we are here to support you. We continue to partner with our provider partners and the Health Care Authority (HCA) to ensure all members are getting needed care.

Please note that HCA recently released the updated Apple Health (Medicaid) COVID-19 Testing Clinical Policy (effective as of 10/1/21). **The policy does include some adjustments to guidelines for COVID-19 testing and billing. Providers are encouraged to review the entire policy to ensure awareness of important details regarding testing and billing guidelines for COVID-19.** You can access the policy via this link: <https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/billers-and-providers/apple-health-covid-testing-clinical-policy.pdf>.

Some Key Points

- **Lab Codes.** The updated policy outlines specific lab codes that are not encounter eligible for IHS (Indian Health Service), FQHCs or RHC providers.
- **Limitations.** Coverage includes 12 tests, per client, per month.
- **Over-the-Counter-Tests.** Refer to the linked document for detailed guidance on over-the-counter COVID tests (refer to pharmacist section of linked document).
- **Billing for specimen collection.** HCA has made some adjustments to the billing guidelines. Notably, Apple Health will allow HCPSC code G2023, G2024, and C9803 when billing for specimen collection (includes drive-through testing). **Please refer to the updated policy for additional billing requirements and restrictions and billing guidance that is specific to the FQHCs, RHCs, and additional guidance for the Indian Health Service (IHS) providers.**
- **Medical Necessity Criteria for Antibody Testing for SARS-CoV-2.** To meet the criteria for medical necessity, antibody testing must be performed by a CLIA-certified lab; must meet medical necessity criteria; and testing is limited to 1 antibody test per calendar year per client.
- **Pharmacists.** Pharmacies may bill for OTC tests prescribed by a provider with prescriptive authority, using a standing order, or when a pharmacist has a collaborative practice agreement that allows for COVID testing.
 - To bill for the OTC COVID tests, pharmacies must follow the NCPDP standard and use the national drug code (NDC) or universal product code (UPC) found on the package.

Pharmacies may not bill for test administration of an OTC COVID test. These tests should be used by the patient in the home setting. Thank you for serving Molina members.