

## COVID-19 testing update

UniCare Health Plan of West Virginia, Inc. (UniCare) is closely monitoring COVID-19 developments and what they mean for our members and our provider partners. UniCare will work closely with our state partners gathering further information and directives.

In March, the West Virginia Bureau for Medical Services (BMS) announced coronavirus testing HCPCS codes. UniCare is following the BMS announcement and has opened HCPCS codes U0001 and U0002 for coronavirus tests CDC 2019 Novel Coronavirus Real Time RT-PCR Diagnostic Test Panel or non-CDC laboratory tests for SARS-CoV-2/2019-nCoV (COVID-19). There is no prior authorization requirement at this time.

Providers can submit claims for U0001 and U0002 beginning April 1, 2020, for dates of service on or after February 4, 2020.

### Update:

Effective 3/13/2020, UniCare will accept CPT code 87635 for COVID-19 testing. If your laboratory uses the method specified by CPT 87635, the appropriate code to use would be CPT 87635. If your laboratory has a test that uses a method not described by CPT 87635, the appropriate code to use would be HCPCS code U0002.

Effective 3/18/20, HCPCS codes U0003 and U0004 with regard to clinical laboratory diagnostic tests (CDLT) that make use of high throughput technologies are reimbursable.

Effective 4/1/2020, CPT codes 86328 and 86769 are available for antibody testing.

Effective 3/1/20, diagnostic laboratories can bill G2023 and G2024 to identify and obtain reimbursement for specimen collection for COVID-19 testing.

Reimbursement for the codes are as follows:

HCPCS/CPT Code	Description	Reimbursement
U0001	Use when specimens are sent to the <b>CDC or CDC-approved labs</b>	\$32.32
U0002	Use when specimens are sent to <b>commercial</b> (non-CDC) labs	\$46.18
U0003	Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique, making use of high throughput technologies.	\$90.00
U0004	2019-nCoV Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2/2019-nCoV (COVID-19), any technique, multiple types or subtypes (includes all targets), non-CDC, making use of high throughput technologies.	\$90.00
86328	The code was established to report antibody testing performed using a <b>single-step method</b> immunoassay and will allow for tracking of COVID-19 antibody testing.	90% of Medicare Rate
86769	The code describes antibody testing performed using a <b>multiple-step method</b> .	90% of Medicare Rate

87635	Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease)	\$46.18
G2023	Specimen collection for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), any specimen source	\$21.11
G2024	Specimen collection for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), from an individual in a <b>skilled nursing facility or by a laboratory on behalf of a home health agency</b> , any specimen source	\$22.91

Additional information is available at the following links: [https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/Pages/Coronavirus-Disease-2019-\(COVID-19\)-Alerts-and-Updates.aspx](https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/Pages/Coronavirus-Disease-2019-(COVID-19)-Alerts-and-Updates.aspx).

**What if I need assistance?**

If you have questions about this communication, received it in error or need assistance with any other item, please contact our Customer Care Center at **1-800-782-0095**.

For questions or assistance for a member enrolled with fee-for-service Medicaid, providers can contact KEPRO\* at **1-800-346-8272** or [wvmedicalservices@kepro.com](mailto:wvmedicalservices@kepro.com).