

**Effective May 12, 2023, and until further notice**, pharmacies with a CLIA Certificate of Waiver can continue to bill Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network for COVID-19 testing for patients with Blue Cross commercial or Blue Care Network commercial coverage. For more information, refer to these resources:

- <u>Waived Tests</u>\*\* from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- <u>Clinical Laboratory Services</u> from the State of Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

Check member eligibility and benefits for coverage and collect any member out-of-pocket costs.

**During the COVID-19 public health emergency**, which ended May 11, 2023, pharmacies that were able to submit Medicare Part B medical claims could bill Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network for COVID-19 testing for patients with Blue Cross commercial or Blue Care Network commercial coverage. This was in accordance with:

- Guidance\*\* issued April 8, 2020 by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Service
- Clarifications included in <u>FAQs</u>\*\* issued Feb. 26, 2021 on the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, known as FFCRA, and the Coronavirus Aid Relief, and Economic Security Act, Known as the CARES Act.

## **COVID-19 testing policies**

Blue Cross and BCN made it easier for members to get COVID-19 diagnostic and antibody tests by giving them more options on where they can be tested when:

- It's medically necessary
- The test is ordered by an attending health care provider

For our Blue Cross and BCN commercial health plans, the health care provider can be a licensed physician, pharmacist or attending clinician operating within the scope of their license. The provider must:

- Determine testing is medically necessary by performing an individualized clinical assessment and using judgment in accordance with accepted standards of medical practice. Medical necessity is not dependent on whether the patient is experiencing symptoms or has been exposed to COVID-19.
- Ensure the test has received or is waiting to receive approval for use (including emergency use) by the Food and Drug Administration, all applicable state and federal safety guidelines are met and report test results to the appropriate agencies.



- Maintain documentation to support coverage and medical necessity, which may be audited by Blue Cross, BCN or a governmental agency.
- Submit the results of COVID-19 laboratory tests (positive or negative) to the Michigan Health Information Network (MIHIN) within three days of completion of the test.

Blue Cross and BCN will **not** cover the cost of workplace or occupational screening COVID-19 tests. As part of our standard policy, we don't cover testing for return-to-work strategies, similar to how we don't cover drug testing for employment purposes.

## **Billable testing codes**

Here are the billable testing codes for COVID-19 tests:

Procedure Code	Description
*0202U	Pathogen specific nucleic acid (DNA or RNA) SARS-CoV-2 COVID-19 22 targets qualitative RT-PCR nasopharyngeal swab
*0223U	Pathogen specific nucleic acid (DNA or RNA) SARS-CoV-2 COVID-19 22 targets qualitative RT-PCR nasopharyngeal swab
*0224U	Antibody SARS-CoV-2 COVID-19, includes titers
*0226U	Surrogate viral neutralization test (sVNT), SARS-CoV-2 COVID-19, ELISA, plasma, serum
*0240U	Pathogen-specific RNA, 3 targets (SARS-CoV-2, influenza A, influenza B), upper respiratory specimen, each pathogen reported as detected or not detected
*0241U	Pathogen-specific RNA, 4 targets (SARS-CoV-2, influenza A, influenza B, respiratory syncytial virus [RSV]), upper respiratory specimen, each pathogen reported as detected or not detected
*86318	Immunoassay for infectious agent antibody(ies), qualitative or semiquantitative, single-step method
*86328	Effective May 12, 2023, this code is no longer payable. Immunoassay for infectious agent antibody SARs II/COVID-19
*86408	Neutralizing antibody, SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19); screen
*86409	Titer
*86413	SARS-CoV-2 COVID-19 antibody, quantitative
*86769	Effective May 12, 2023, this code is no longer payable. Antibody SARS-COV-2 /COVID-19
*87426	Infectious agent antigen detection by immunoassay technique



Nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

# **COVID-19 testing for pharmacies**

For Blue Cross commercial and BCN commercial members

Revised October 2023

*87428	Infectious agent antigen detection by immunoassay technique, qualitative or semiquantitative; severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (eg, SARSCoV, SARS-CoV-2 [COVID-19]) and influenza virus types A and B
*87635	Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); SARS-CoV-2 COVID- 19, amplified probe technique
*87636	SARSCoV-2 COVID-19 and influenza virus types A and B, multiplex amplified probe technique
*87637	SARSCoV-2 COVID-19, influenza virus types A and B, and respiratory syncytial virus, multiplex amplified probe technique
*87811	SARSCoV-2 COVID-19
*87428	Infectious agent antigen detection by immunoassay technique, and influenza virus types A and B
*87913	Infectious agent genotype analysis by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); SARS-CoV-2 COVID-19, mutation identification in targeted region(s)
U0001	CDC PCR Diagnostic panel SARS-COV-2/COVID-19
U0002	Non-CDC any technique SARS-COV-2/COVID-19e
U0003	This code ends May 11, 2023. Nucleic acid amplified probe high throughput SARS-COV-2/COVID-19
U0004	This code ends May 11, 2023. Non-CDC high throughput SARS-COV-2/COVID-19

The following COVID-19 diagnostic test administration and specimen collection codes may applied until the public health emergency ended on May 11, 2023: \*99000, \*99001, G2023 or G2024.

#### **Billing for COVID-19 patient testing**

Pharmacies in the Vaccine Affiliation Program can submit medical claims to Blue Cross or BCN for COVID-19 tests.

Pharmacies that are not part of the Vaccine Affiliation Program and administer COVID-19 tests should collect payment from members and advise members to submit the receipt with a claim form to Blue Cross or BCN for reimbursement of test costs. Members can get a claim form at bcbsm.com or may call the number on the back of their ID cards.

If you are a Michigan pharmacy not participating in the Vaccine Affiliation Program, here's how you can sign-up:

- 1. Go to bcbsm.com/providers.
- 2. Click on Enrollment.



## **COVID-19 testing for pharmacies**

For Blue Cross commercial and BCN commercial members Revised October 2023

- 3. Click Enroll Now.
- 4. Click the button next to Physicians and Professionals; then click Next.
- 5. Click the button next to Enroll a new provider; then click Next.
- 6. Under "Allied Providers", click the button next to Vaccine Pharmacy; then click Next.
- 7. Complete and return the documents on this page.

#### More information

You can find other COVID-19 related documents for pharmacies on our public website. Here's how to find them:

- 1. Go to bcbsm.com/providers.
- 2. Click the *Resources* tab.
- 3. Under *Key forms and documents* click *View all* to open the <u>For Providers: Forms and</u> <u>Documents</u> webpage.
- 4. Choose COVID-19 from the drop-down list at the top of the page or scroll to the COVID-19 section.

If you have questions, please call Provider Inquiry at 1-800-344-8525. To reach a customer service representative call between 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

# \*CPT codes, descriptions and two-digit numeric modifiers only are copyright 2022 American Medical Association. All rights reserved.

\*\*Clicking this link means that you're leaving the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network website. While we recommend this site, we're not responsible for its content.