We’ve updated documents about COVID-19 patient testing and billing recommendations

We’ve updated documents about COVID-19 patient testing and billing recommendations to reflect the following changes:

- **CS modifier**: Include the CS modifier on all COVID-19 testing claims lines. While the use of this modifier isn’t required, it will help to identify the testing service as being subject to the member cost-sharing waiver.

- **Testing or treatment that occurs as part of a research study**: Testing or treatment that occurs as part of a research study should not be billed to Blue Cross or BCN. The costs of research should be covered by the investigator.

- **New HCPCS code for specimen collection for COVID-19 testing**: You can now bill HCPCS code C9803 for specimen collection for COVID-19 testing in hospital outpatient settings.

  - **For Medicare Plus BlueSM PPO and BCN AdvantageSM members**: For claims submitted on or after May 1, 2020, you must bill C9803 for specimen collection for COVID-19 testing in a hospital outpatient setting. If you submit claims with code G2023 on or after May 1 for Medicare Advantage members, these claims will be returned with edit W7062; you’ll need to resubmit the claims with code C9803.

  - **For Blue Cross’ PPO and BCN HMOSM members**: You can continue to submit claims with code G2023 for specimen collection in a hospital outpatient setting. You now have the option of billing code C9803.

We updated one or both of the following documents to reflect these changes:

- [COVID-19 patient testing recommendations for physicians](#)
- [Billing recommendations for COVID-19 testing, including drive through](#)

You can find the documents referenced below on our public website at [bcbsm.com/coronavirus](http://bcbsm.com/coronavirus) and through Provider Secured Services.