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

We’ve made changes to the following documents:

- COVID-19 patient testing recommendations
- Billing recommendations for COVID-19 testing, including drive through

You can find these documents on our public website at bcbsm.com/coronavirus and through Provider Secured Services.

Testing recommendations updates

We’ve made the following changes to the COVID-19 patient testing recommendations document:

- We’ve added the CPT* codes that should be billed for antibody (serologic) testing for dates of service on or after April 10, 2020. The codes include *86318, *86328 and *86769.
- We’ve added a “Coverage for COVID-19 testing” section that clarifies the date of service on which Blue Cross and BCN began covering member cost sharing for diagnostic and serologic testing for COVID-19. This section also clarifies that tests must:
  - Be ordered by an attending health care provider who determines testing is medically appropriate using judgment in accordance with accepted standards of medical practice
  - Have received or are waiting to receive approval for use (including emergency use) by the Food and Drug Administration
  - Be documented in the medical record
- We’ve clarified that the decision to test for COVID-19 pre-operatively is a clinical decision that must be supported in the patient’s record.
- We’ve added a link to the current list of tests approved by the FDA.

Billing recommendations updates

We updated the Billing recommendations for COVID-19 testing, including drive through document to include information about billing code *99211 for observing self-administered specimen collection for COVID-19 testing for new or established patients.

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