



BLUE CROSS NC VIRTUAL ROUNDS

Dec. 14, 2020

BLUE CROSS NC VIRTUAL ROUNDS

Agenda

- + Overview of all measures and deadlines

- + Latest news
 - COVID-19 vaccine information
 - New ICD codes effective Jan. 1, 2021

- + Q&A
 - Please hold your questions until we open Q&A.

- + Next steps
 - We will post these slides at BlueCrossNC.com/Coronavirus-Providers.

Please note:

There is a slight delay in the webinar feed. Please keep this in mind as we proceed.

There have been technical issues across all platforms due to increased usage. Close your window and rejoin the webinar if you're having issues.



OVERVIEW OF ALL MEASURES AND DEADLINES

Slides updated as of 12.14.2020. Content is subject to change.
Please visit [BlueCrossNC.com/coronavirus-providers](https://www.bluecrossnc.com/coronavirus-providers) for the most up-to-date information

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF ALL BLUE CROSS NC MEASURES FOR COVID-19

COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Measures We're
Taking to Support
Members and
Clinicians

For the latest updates, please visit
BlueCrossNC.com/Coronavirus



Expanded Telehealth
Measures



Blue Cross NC is waiving
member cost-sharing for
COVID-19 clinical visits, testing
and related treatments.



No Prior Authorization for
COVID-19 Testing and
Related Services

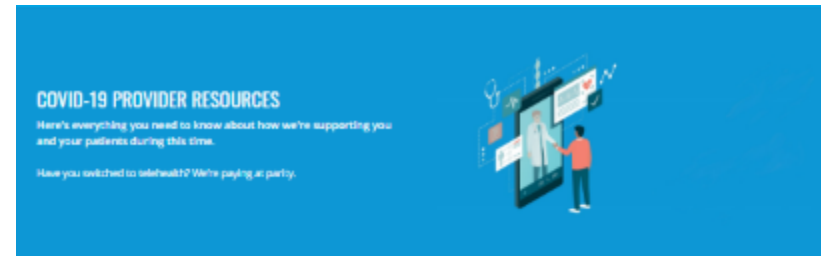


Members with suspected and
confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis:
No prior authorization for
diagnostic tests and covered
services that are medically
necessary based on CDC
guidelines.

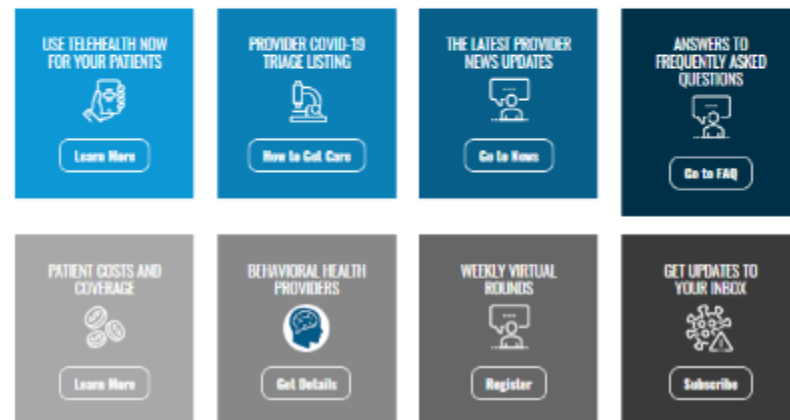
How our measures apply to patients

- + At a high level, all measures available to:
 - Fully insured (group and individual)
 - High-deductible health plan, Medicare Advantage (includes Experience Health)
 - State Health Plan, *except the drug benefit (administered through CVS)*
 - **PLEASE NOTE:** We are working with self-funded groups to revise their benefits for each measure. We can't guarantee benefits or payments for self-funded, FEP or IPP. Use the contacts on the back of a patient's card to verify benefits for these plans.

BlueCrossNC.com/Coronavirus-Providers



PROVIDER RESOURCES AT A GLANCE



OVERVIEW OF DEADLINES



The following measure is extended through June 30, 2021:

- + **Virtual Care:** Blue Cross NC will continue its expanded virtual care policy. Under this expanded policy, visits to providers that previously required an in-person encounter can be performed virtually and will be paid at parity with office visits as long as they are medically necessary, meet criteria in the updated Blue Cross NC Telehealth Corporate Reimbursement Policy, and occur on or after March 6, 2020. This includes virtual care encounters for patients that can replace in-person interactions across appropriate care settings, including outpatient clinics, hospitals, and the emergency departments. This measure applies to all Blue Cross NC commercial plans and Medicare Advantage plans offered and administered by Blue Cross NC, including Experience Health.

The following measure is extended through March 31, 2021:

- + **Prior Authorization Waiver for COVID-19 Related Services:** Blue Cross NC will continue waiving prior authorization requirements for emergent non-elective inpatient admissions, durable medical equipment and post-acute care services that are medically necessary for COVID-19 related services. This measure applies to all Blue Cross NC commercial plans and Medicare Advantage plans offered and administered by Blue Cross NC, including Experience Health.

The following measure is extended through March 31, 2021:

- + **COVID-19 Treatment Cost-Share Waivers:** Blue Cross NC will continue waiving member cost-sharing (copays, deductibles and coinsurance) for COVID-19 related treatment that is medically necessary and consistent with CDC guidance if a member is diagnosed with COVID-19. This measure applies to all fully insured, State Health Plan, Federal Employee Program, Blue Cross NC Medicare Advantage members, and Experience Health members. Self-funded employer groups will be given the option to apply these changes to their employees' plans.

OVERVIEW OF DEADLINES



The following measure is required by current laws and guidance. We will continue to monitor for any changes to the benefits and length of coverage.

- + **COVID-19 Testing and Clinical Visit Cost-Share Waivers:** Blue Cross NC will waive member cost-sharing (including deductibles, copayments, and coinsurance) for allowed charges for COVID-19 testing or for a clinical visit or call to determine if testing is necessary. Specifically, there will be no member cost-share for COVID-19 testing or clinical visits to determine if testing is needed through virtual care visits, outpatient office visits, urgent care visits or ER visits. This measure applies to all Blue Cross NC commercial plans and Medicare Advantage plans offered and administered by Blue Cross NC, including Experience Health.



LATEST NEWS

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COVID-19 vaccine: General information

- + Blue Cross NC will cover COVID-19 vaccines that are FDA approved for emergency use authorization (EUA) at no cost for all members, both during the public health emergency and after.
- + While additional guidance may be released by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) later, we're providing you with critical information that is known at this time.
- + The vaccine will be allocated, distributed and administered to the public in phases based on availability determined by federal, state and local government authorities. Health officials have recommended, as interim guidance, that both health care personnel and residents of long-term care facilities be offered the COVID-19 vaccine in the initial phase of the vaccination program.

COVID-19 vaccine: Cost coverage

- + ***During the public health emergency***, the federal government will pay for the cost of the COVID-19 vaccine for all individuals. Additional costs associated with administering the vaccine (such as vaccine supplies, storage and provider costs) will be covered by either the federal government or the member's health plan, depending on the member.
- + ***After the public health emergency***, Blue Cross NC will cover the cost of the COVID-19 vaccine with no cost-sharing to members, as part of our routine preventative care and immunization benefits in accordance with federal laws and regulations.

COVID-19 vaccine: Cost coverage (continued)

Member Segment	Cost Coverage
Members over 65 (Medicare and Medicare Advantage)	The federal government will pay all vaccine-related costs, with no cost to members during the public health emergency.
Commercial members, including non-grandfathered individual under 65 plans, small and large group (fully insured and self-funded) plans, transitional plans and student health plans	The federal government will pay for the cost of the COVID-19 vaccine. Blue Cross NC and Administrative Services Only (ASO) groups will cover vaccine administration fees during the public health emergency with no cost to members.
Members on a grandfathered group plan	Vaccines will be available at no member cost-share during the public health emergency. Blue Cross NC and Administrative Services Only (ASO) groups will cover vaccine administration fees during the public health emergency with no cost to members.
Federal Employee Program (FEP)	Once an FDA-approved vaccine becomes available for COVID-19, all federal employee health benefit carriers are required to cover the vaccine without any member cost-sharing during the public health emergency. The FEP Operations Center is working with the FEP Director's Office to implement this as quickly as possible once FDA-approved vaccines are available.

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COVID-19 vaccine: In-network provider reimbursement

- + The Medicare allowed amount for administration of the first dose and second dose is \$16.94 and \$28.39 respectively. This will be the same allowed amount for commercial customers.

Estimated COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Fees	In-Network Providers	
	First Dose	Second Dose
Medicare Customers (Medicare allowed amount for COVID-19 Vaccine Administration)	\$16.94	\$28.39
Commercial Customers (Allowed amount for COVID-19 Vaccine Administration)	\$16.94	\$28.39

COVID-19 vaccine: Out-of-network provider reimbursement

- + According to recent federal legislation, Blue Cross NC must pay the OON provider directly for the administration fees based on the prevailing rate ***during the public health emergency.***
- + ***After the public health emergency,*** the vaccine administrative fees are covered as preventative services. While Blue Cross NC covers preventative care services from OON providers, cost-sharing will be applied in accordance with the member's benefits.

COVID-19 vaccine: Out-of-network provider reimbursement (continued)

- + The Medicare allowed amount for administration of the first dose and second dose is \$16.94 and \$28.39 respectively. This will be the same allowed amount for commercial customers.
- + Providers must accept that as payment in full. Current federal regulations prohibit any provider from balance billing patients for the COVID-19 vaccine.

Estimated COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Fees	Out-of-Network Providers	
	First Dose	Second Dose
Medicare Customers (Medicare allowed amount for COVID-19 Vaccine Administration)	\$16.94	\$28.39
Commercial Customers (Allowed amount for COVID-19 Vaccine Administration)	\$16.94	\$28.39

COVID-19 vaccine: Claims submission

- + **Traditional Medicare and Medicare Advantage members:** During the public health emergency, providers should file claims related to the vaccine and administration of the vaccine directly to Traditional Medicare. If providers file vaccine-related claims with Blue Cross NC during the emergency, the system will deny the claim and advise the provider to file with Traditional Medicare for Medicare Advantage members.
- + **Commercial and FEP members:** Providers should file claims with Blue Cross NC

COVID-19 vaccine: Coding

Vaccine Code	Vaccine Code Descriptor	Vaccine Admin Code(s)	Vaccine Manufacturer	Vaccine Name(s)	Labeler Product ID (Vial)	Dosing Interval
91300	Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 30 mcg/0.3mL dosage, diluent reconstituted, for intramuscular use	0001A (1st dose)	Pfizer, Inc	Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine	59267-1000-1 59267-1000-01	21 days
		0002A (2nd dose)				
91301	Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, mRNA-LNP, spike protein, preservative free, 100 mcg/0.5mL dosage, for intramuscular use	0011A (1st dose)	Moderna, Inc	Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine	80777-273-10 80777-0273-10	28 days
		0012A (2nd dose)				

Updated coding guidance based on new ICD-10 codes effective Jan. 1, 2021

- + COVID-19 Clinical Visit Cost-Share Waivers
 - Z11.52: Encounter for screening for COVID-19
 - Z20.822: Contact with and (suspected) exposure to COVID19
 - Codes accepted Jan. 1, 2021; however, ***continue to apply -CS modifier in addition to new codes until Feb. 1, 2021, to allow for configuration to be in place.***

- + COVID-19 Treatment Cost Share Wavier
 - J12.82: Pneumonia due to coronavirus disease 2019
 - M35.81: Multisystem inflammatory syndrome
 - Codes accepted Jan 1; however, ***please code U07.1 as primary until Jan. 15, 2021, to allow configuration to be in place.***

General coding/claims reminders

- + We cannot control or guarantee any benefits or payments for other Blues plans or FEP. You should check the back of the patient's insurance card and use the contact information listed for benefit verification.
- + You can view [detailed coding guidance on our website](#). If you have questions about a specific claim, [complete this form](#).
- + You also can visit the [Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association's Coronavirus Updates page](#) to find out how local Blues plans are responding to the pandemic.
- + For information on FEP, visit <https://www.fepblue.org/en/coronavirus-updates>.
- + For the latest CPT coding updates from the American Medical Association (AMA), [visit the AMA website](#).

Q&A

Please follow the instructions on the next slide.

Instructions

- + Use the Q&A box under the webinar screen.
- + Read the questions that are published before submitting your own.
- + Please do not submit duplicate questions. Instead, click the heart to vote for the question.
- + We will answer the questions with the most votes first.

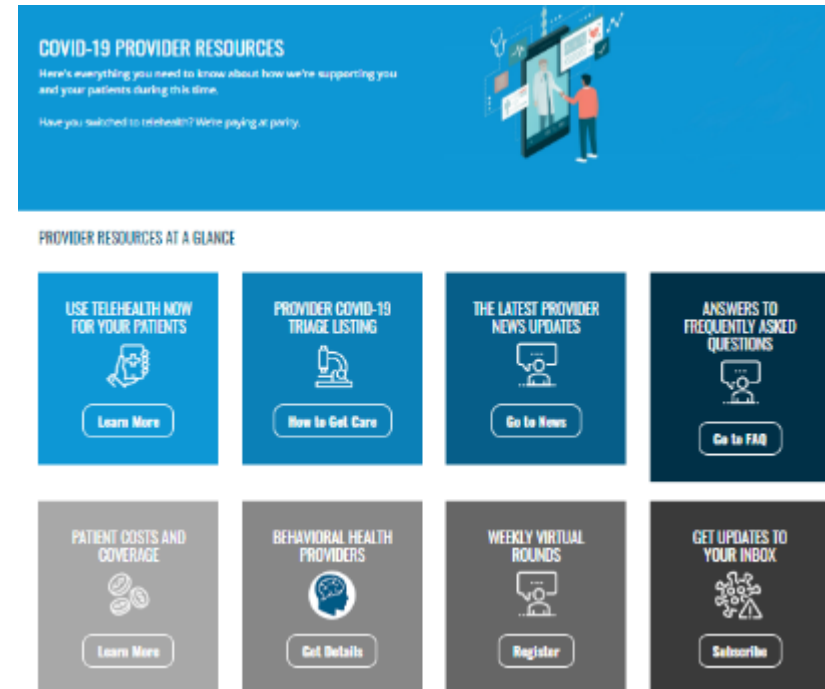


NEXT STEPS

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Latest information









- + Visit BlueCrossNC.com/Coronavirus-Providers.
- + We will post the slides on this page.
- + Remember to sign up for E-briefs.
- + Register for "Virtual Rounds."
 - [Sign up in our registration form.](#)



The screenshot shows the 'COVID-19 PROVIDER RESOURCES' section of the Blue Cross of North Carolina website. It features a blue header with the title and a sub-header: 'Here's everything you need to know about how we're supporting you and your patients during this time.' Below this is a small illustration of a person interacting with a large screen displaying various icons. The main content area is titled 'PROVIDER RESOURCES AT A GLANCE' and contains eight interactive cards arranged in two rows. Each card has a title, an icon, and a button to learn more or get details.

COVID-19 PROVIDER RESOURCES
Here's everything you need to know about how we're supporting you and your patients during this time.
Have you switched to telehealth? We're paying at parity.

PROVIDER RESOURCES AT A GLANCE

USE TELEHEALTH NOW FOR YOUR PATIENTS  Learn More	PROVIDER COVID-19 TRIAGE LISTING  How to Get Care	THE LATEST PROVIDER NEWS UPDATES  Go to News	ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS  Go to FAQ
PATIENT COSTS AND COVERAGE  Learn More	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS  Get Details	WEEKLY VIRTUAL ROUNDS  Register	GET UPDATES TO YOUR INBOX  Subscribe



THANK YOU

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