



BLUE CROSS NC VIRTUAL ROUNDS

Jan. 11, 2021

Agenda

- + Overview of all measures and deadlines

- + Latest news
 - Updates on coding guidance for clinical visits to determine if COVID-19 testing is necessary
 - Updates on coding guidelines for COVID-19 vaccines
 - Astra Zeneca Vaccine
 - Coding guidance for COVID-19 treatment

- + 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 01.11.2021. 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

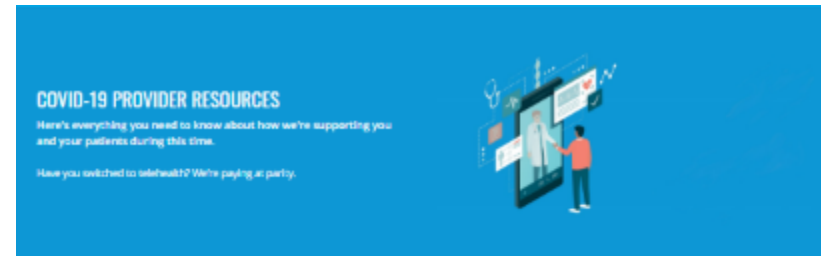


Members with suspected and
confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis:
No prior authorization for
diagnostic tests and covered
services that are medically
necessary based on CDC
guidelines.

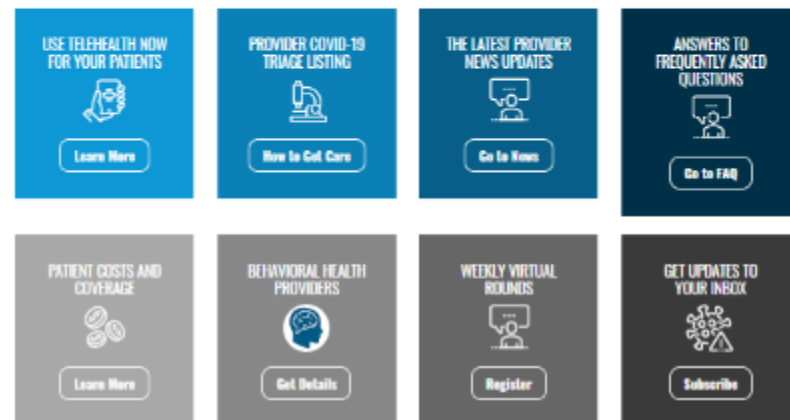
How our measures apply to patients

- + 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



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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Updates on coding guidance for clinical visits to determine if COVID-19 testing is necessary

PLEASE NOTE:

- + Based on feedback from providers after the Jan. 11 virtual rounds, we have adjusted our guidance on coding for clinical visits to determine if COVID-19 testing is necessary for dates of service on or after Feb. 1, 2021, for commercial claims. ***Please see the next slide for this update.***

- + Reminders:
 - Medicare Advantage plans offered or administered by Blue Cross NC, including Experience Health, should continue to follow CMS guidelines for use of the -CS modifier.
 - Providers should use the phone number on the back of a patient's ID card to verify benefits for other Blues plans as not all are waiving cost share in the same way that Blue Cross NC is.

Updates on coding guidance for clinical visits to determine if COVID-19 testing is necessary

- + For dates of service on or after Feb. 1, 2021, you have three options to indicate waiving cost share for **commercial claims**. It is at the discretion of the provider to choose which is appropriate.
 - -CS modifier: Can be used to indicate diagnostic imaging, labs and physician encounters (both face-to-face and telehealth) to determine if COVID-19 testing is needed for a patient who has a confirmed or suspected exposure to COVID-19.
 - Z20.822: Contact with and (suspected) exposure to COVID-19
 - Likely will capture the majority of encounters
 - Place as the primary diagnosis on the claim line when contact/exposure is the reason for the encounter and the patient is asymptomatic
 - Z11.52: Encounter for screening for COVID-19
 - Can be used as the primary diagnosis on the claim line when screening is the reason for the encounter and the patient is asymptomatic

Update on Coding Guidelines for Vaccines

- AMA tool to determine the appropriate CPT code combination for the type and dose of vaccine being used: <https://www.ama-assn.org/find-covid-19-vaccine-codes>
- AMA has released the following for the AstraZeneca vaccine (however, this vaccine has not yet received FDA emergency use authorization as of 1/11/2021).

| | |
|--------------|---|
| 93012 | Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, DNA, spike protein, chimpanzee adenovirus Oxford 1 (ChAdOx1) vector, preservative free, 5x10 ¹⁰ viral particles/0.5mL dosage, for intramuscular use |
| 0021A | Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, DNA, spike protein, chimpanzee adenovirus Oxford 1 (ChAdOx1) vector, preservative free, 5x10 ¹⁰ viral particles/0.5mL dosage; first dose |
| 0022A | Immunization administration by intramuscular injection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) vaccine, DNA, spike protein, chimpanzee adenovirus Oxford 1 (ChAdOx1) vector, preservative free, 5x10 ¹⁰ viral particles/0.5mL dosage; second dose |

Coding guidance for COVID-19 treatment

- + Diagnosis code U07.1 should be in the principal or primary position on the claim.
 - Exceptions include:
 - Sepsis present upon admission: A41.89 in the primary position/U07.1 secondary position
 - Pregnancy: O98.51x in primary position/ U07.1 in secondary position
 - HIV: B20 in primary position/U07.1 in secondary position
- + New codes effective Jan 1, 2021; Should be in secondary position:
 - J12.82 Pneumonia due to coronavirus disease 2019
 - M35.81 Multisystem inflammatory syndrome
- + U07.1 *should not* be used when billing for the test itself.

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.

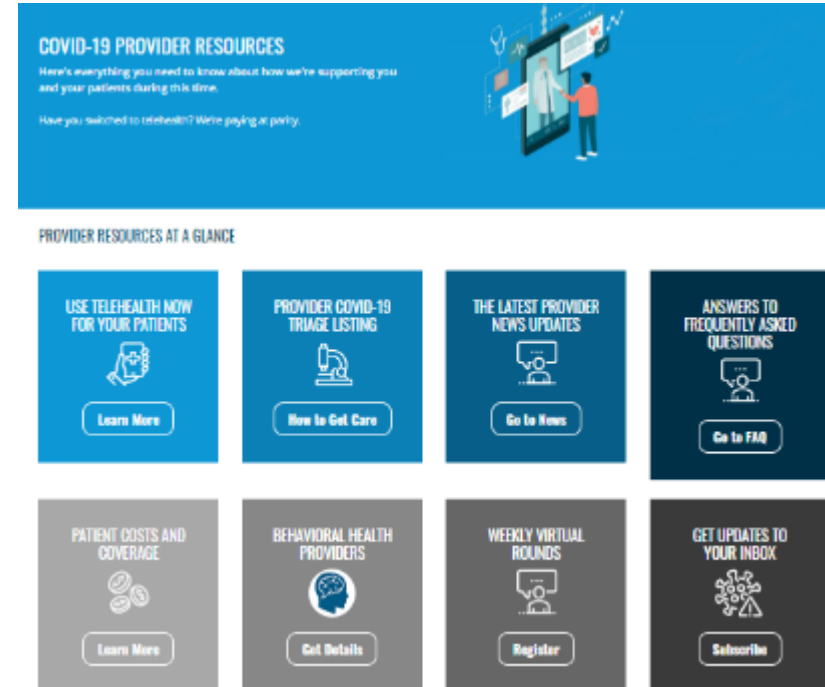


NEXT STEPS

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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.](#)



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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