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COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Medicaid Providers
Updated 5/15/2020

1. **QUESTION:** **Does Nevada Medicaid cover testing for coronavirus (COVID-19)? (Updated)**

   ANSWER: Yes, Nevada Medicaid covers the COVD-19 diagnostic test. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the American Medical Association (AMA) created two new Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes and one new Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code for outpatient hospitals and laboratories to bill for testing. The new HCPCS codes are U0001 and U0002, and the CPT code is 87635.

   - U0001 - CDC 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-ncov) real-time rt-pcr diagnostic panel.
   - U0002 - 2019-ncov coronavirus, sars-cov-2/2019-ncov (covid-19), any technique, multiple types or subtypes (includes all targets), non-CDC.
   - 87635 - Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique.

   Nevada Medicaid also covers the COVID-19 serology antibody test. This includes CPT codes 86328 and 86769.

   - 86328 - Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) – Antibody testing using single step method.
   - 86769 - Antibody; severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) – Multi-step method.

   Nevada Medicaid is currently in the process of completing system updates to allow for reimbursement of these tests. At this time there is no implementation date determined, however, any claims submitted with HCPCS/CPT codes U0001, U0002, 87635, 86328, or 86769 will be suspended until system configurations are completed, at which time claims will be released for reimbursement.

2. **QUESTION:** **What are the diagnosis codes for COVID-19? (New Question)**

   ANSWER: The COVID-19 diagnosis codes include:
   - U07.1 - Virus identified is assigned to a disease diagnosis of COVID-19 confirmed by laboratory testing.
   - U07.2 - Virus not identified' is assigned to a clinical or epidemiological diagnosis of COVID-19 where laboratory confirmation is inconclusive or not available.
   - Z71.1 - Person with feared health complaint in whom no diagnosis is made.

3. **QUESTION:** **What are the reimbursement rates for the COVID-19 diagnostic test and serology antibody test? (Updated)**

   ANSWER: Nevada Medicaid is still waiting approval from CMS on our reimbursement rates. Currently, any claims that are submitted will suspend. Once rates have been established, claims will be released for reimbursement.

4. **QUESTION:** **Will Nevada Medicaid cover the costs of COVID-19 care?**

   ANSWER: Nevada Medicaid providers reimbursement for medically necessary services. Care and treatment for COVID-19 will be covered and reimbursed in accordance with current Medicaid policy.

5. **QUESTION:** **I've heard that Nevada Medicaid will cover the uninsured population and Emergency Medicaid. (New Question)**

   ANSWER: Nevada Medicaid has applied to CMS requesting to cover the new uninsured population and the Emergency Medicaid Only population for COVID-19 testing. As of today, CMS has not responded to this request.

6. **QUESTION:** **Is telehealth a covered service for COVID-19?**

   ANSWER: Yes, telehealth is currently an allowable Medicaid service. Providers must diagnose and treat within the scope of practice. New developments using this service delivery model are posted at dhcfp.nv.gov/COVID19 under the Provider links.

   More information about telehealth coverage is available in the Medicaid Services Manual (MSM) Chapter 3400 located at
   http://dhcfp.nv.gov/Resources/AdminSupport/Manuals/MSM/C3400/Chapter3400/.

7. **QUESTION:** **Is a telehealth visit covered if the patient participates from their home?**

   ANSWER: Yes, the distant site (where the provider is located) is covered even when the patient participates from home. When the patient participates from home, there is no reimbursement for a facility fee.

8. **QUESTION:** **Will there be changes to pharmacy benefit?**

   ANSWER: Nevada Medicaid is allowing recipients to refill certain medications early to ensure they have an uninterrupted supply during the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) threat. The standard refill threshold level for non-controlled substances is being reduced from 80% to 50%. This means that these types of medications will require that 50% of the supply has been used before the next fill is allowed. Medications classified as controlled substances will continue to require that 90% of the supply has been used before the next fill is allowed.

   Nevada Medicaid recipients with active eligibility may obtain a one-time early refill of their prescription medications if they have refills remaining on file at a participating retail or mail-order pharmacy. The refill obtained will stay consistent with the standard days' supply previously filled by the member as allowed by their plan (e.g., 34- or 100-day supply). The "refill too soon waiver" will be continuously evaluated to determine the appropriate duration based on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance, federal and state declarations,

and any other relevant data. Updated web announcements will be posted as the situation progresses.

If there are any issues with accessing medication, please contact the OptumRx Technical Call Center (Pharmacy Help Desk) at (866) 244-8554.

9. **QUESTION:**   **Where can I find additional information regarding state updates on COVID-19 activities?**

    ANSWER: There are two comprehensive websites detailing Nevada's response and efforts related to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus:

- http://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/OPHIE/dta/Hot_Topics/Coronavirus/
- https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/.

10. **QUESTION:**   **Is there information available regarding diagnosis and treatment?**

    ANSWER: The following link will take you to the CDC's website with the most up-to-date information regarding COVID-19. https://www.cdc.gov/.

11. **QUESTION:**   **What is Medicaid doing in response to COVID-19?**

    ANSWER: Medicaid is currently working closely with local, state, and federal government agencies and business health partners to ensure the health and safety of Medicaid recipients. Policy and systems are currently being evaluated to ensure that providers have access to the necessary services to screen, diagnose, and treat Medicaid recipients.

Additional and current information regarding Medicaid's efforts and response can be found at http://dhcfp.nv.gov/covid19/.

12. **QUESTION:**   **If I have a recipient with questions regarding their Medicaid benefits, where can I send them to?**

    ANSWER: The following link includes a recipient specific frequently asked questions that can be provided to your patients who have questions regarding their Medicaid benefits, http://dhcfp.nv.gov/covid19/.

13. **QUESTION:**   **What if I have a Medicaid recipient who is enrolled in a Managed Care Organization (MCO)?**

    ANSWER: Please see below for a list of MCO contact information:

**Anthem Blue Cross and Blue
Shield Healthcare Solutions**
(844) 396-2329

Health Plan of Nevada
(800) 962-8074

SilverSummit Healthplan
(844) 366-2880

Dental: Liberty Dental Plan
(866) 609-0418