



Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Laboratory Transmittal No. 75

MCO Transmittal No. 139

August 21, 2020

To: Laboratories
Managed Care Organizations

From: Jill Spector, Director *Jill Spector*
Medical Benefits Management

Re: COVID-19 Laboratory Testing Reimbursable as a Self-Referred Service

Note: Please ensure that appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this memorandum.

Note: This is an update to Laboratory Transmittal No. 73 and Managed Care Organization Transmittal No. 138, which was issued on July 27, 2020. This transmittal adds three new reimbursable laboratory codes for COVID-19 testing with an effective date of June 25, 2020.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, laboratory codes related to COVID-19 tests will be considered a self-referred service for individuals enrolled in HealthChoice managed care organizations (MCOs). This means the Maryland Department of Health is requiring MCOs to reimburse non-network laboratories and providers for COVID-19 testing.

Laboratories must be enrolled with the Medicaid Program in order to be reimbursed for services. Please visit eprep.health.maryland.gov to enroll in the Medicaid Fee-for-Service Program.

Expedited approval through ePREP is available for new and previously active providers enrolling for the state of emergency and who wish to remain enrolled as Medicaid providers after the state of emergency.

Go to eprep.health.maryland.gov and sign up for a user profile if you do not have one.

- Submit a new enrollment application and email mdh.providerenrollment@maryland.gov with the subject line “Expedited COVID-19 ePREP Enrollment [Provider Name]” to request expedited enrollment and backdate to the state of emergency start date.
- Providers that typically require a site visit and/or fingerprint-based criminal background check (FCBC) prior to enrollment are exempt from this requirement during the state of emergency. These requirements will occur post-enrollment, following the state of emergency.

A list of the reimbursable codes and Maryland Medicaid fee-for-service (FFS) rates appear on the next page.

If you have any questions about the contents of this transmittal, please contact:

Laboratories: Tenesha Lynch, Medical Care Program Specialist II,
tenesha.lynch@maryland.gov.

MCOs and Self-Referred Services: Pam Williams, HealthChoice Administrator,
pam.williams@maryland.gov.

COVID-19 Reimbursable Laboratory Codes

Code	Effective Date	CPT or HCPCS	Description	FFS Rate
U0001	2/4/20	HCPCS	CDC 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Real-Time RT-PCR Diagnostic Panel	\$35.92
U0002	2/4/20	HCPCS	2019-nCoV Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2/2019-nCoV (COVID-19), any technique, multiple types or subtypes (includes all targets), non-CDC	\$51.33
G2023*	3/1/20	HCPCS	Specimen collection for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), any specimen source	\$23.46
G2024*	3/1/20	HCPCS	Specimen collection for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), from an individual in a SNF or by a laboratory on behalf of a HHA, any specimen source	\$25.46
87635	3/16/20	CPT	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	\$51.33
U0003**	4/14/20	HCPCS	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, making use of high throughput technologies as described by CMS-2020-01-R	\$100.00
U0004**	4/14/20	HCPCS	2019-nCoV Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2/2019-nCoV (COVID-19), any technique, multiple types or subtypes (includes all targets), non-CDC, making use of high throughput technologies as described by CMS-2020-01-R	\$100.00
87426	6/25/20	CPT	Infectious agent antigen detection by immunoassay technique (e.g., enzyme immunoassay [EIA], enzyme linked immunosorbent assay [ELISA], immunochemiluminometric assay [IMCA]), qualitative or semiquantitative, multiple-step method; severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (e.g., SARS-CoV, SARS-CoV-2 [COVID-19])	\$45.23
0223U	6/25/20	HCPCS	Infectious disease (bacterial or viral respiratory tract infection), pathogen-specific nucleic acid (DNA or RNA), 22 targets including severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), qualitative RT-PCR, nasopharyngeal swab, each pathogen reported as detected or not detected	\$416.78
0224U	6/25/20	HCPCS	Antibody, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), includes titer(s), when performed (Do not report 0224U in conjunction with 86769)	\$42.13

* The specimen collection fee applies if the specimen is collected by trained laboratory personnel from a homebound individual or non-hospital inpatient. Excluded are specimens that only require the services of a messenger to pick up the specimen or when a patient collects his or her own specimen.

** When billing for HCPCS codes U0003 and U0004, please note the following: 1) U0003 should identify tests performed with high throughput technologies that would otherwise be billed using CPT code 87635. 2) U0004 should identify tests performed with high throughput technologies that would otherwise be billed using U0002. 3) Neither U0003 nor U0004 should be billed for tests that detect COVID-19 antibodies.

