



**TO:** All Providers – **For Action**  
Managed Care Organizations – **For Information**

**SUBJECT:** **COVID-19 Guidance for Service Claims**

**EFFECTIVE:** Immediately

**PURPOSE:** To notify providers regarding billing procedures for submitting claims to request reimbursement for services provided to NJ FamilyCare (NJFC) Medicaid beneficiaries tested and/or diagnosed with coronavirus (COVID-19). Guidance offered in this Newsletter will address (1) Billing for 2019-nCoV Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2/2019 (COVID19), any technique, multiple types or subtypes (includes all targets), non-CDC and (2) COVID-19-related ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes to be reported when requesting reimbursement from the NJFC Medicaid program.

**BACKGROUND:** Most recent updates regarding COVID -19 may be found at:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

The New Jersey Department of Health website at:  
[https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019\\_professionals.shtml](https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_professionals.shtml) also provides COVID-19 information for healthcare and public health professionals.

This guidance is intended to be used in conjunction with the current ICD-10-CM classification and the *ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting FY 2020* (effective October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020) and will be updated to reflect new clinical information as it becomes available. [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/icd/10cmguidelines-FY2020\\_final.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/icd/10cmguidelines-FY2020_final.pdf).

**ACTION:**

(1) Procedures for billing 2019-nCoV Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2/2019 (COVID19), any technique, multiple types or subtypes (includes all targets), non-CDC.

- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) established the new HCPCS procedure code U0002 allowing independent laboratories to bill for non-CDC laboratory tests for SARS-CoV-2/2019-nCoV (COVID-19) any technique, multiple types or subtypes (includes all targets) on or after April 1, 2020. The NJFC Medicaid program shall provide coverage for the CDC 2019 Novel Coronavirus Real Time RT-PCR Diagnostic Test Panel for service dates on or after February 4, 2020.

- For independent laboratories submit as normal via HIPAA 5010 format or through Direct Data Entry (DDE) using procedure code "U0002".

- For hospitals: Bill using revenue code “229” and procedure code “U0002”. This instruction is temporary. By July 1, 2020 hospitals will be able to bill the procedure code with the associated laboratory revenue cost center, as is customary. Expect an updated Medicaid Alert once this occurs.

When submitting claims for COVID-19 testing you must utilize ICD-10 diagnosis codes listed below.

**(2) COVID -19-related ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes**

COVID-19- Related Symptom	Reported ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code
Pneumonia confirmed case due to COVID-19	J12.89 Other viral pneumonia B97.29 Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere
Acute bronchitis confirmed case due to COVID-19	J20.8 Acute bronchitis due to other specified organisms B97.29 Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere
Bronchitis not otherwise specified (NOS) due to the COVID-19	J40 Bronchitis, not specified as acute or chronic B97.29 Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere
Lower respiratory infection, NOS or acute respiratory infection, NOS associated with COVID-19	J22 Unspecified acute lower respiratory infection B97.29 Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere
Respiratory infection, NOS associated with COVID-19	J98.8 Other specified respiratory disorders B97.29 Other coronavirus as the cause of disease classified elsewhere
ARDS cases due to COVID-19	J80 Acute respiratory distress syndrome B97.29 Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere
Exposure to COVID-19 For cases about a possible exposure to COVID-19, but has been ruled out after evaluation	Z03.818 Encounter for observation for suspected exposure to other biological agents ruled out
For cases where there is an actual exposure to someone who is confirmed to have COVID-19	Z20.828 Contact with and (suspected) exposure to other viral communicable diseases
For patients presenting with signs/symptoms (such as fever, etc.) and where a definitive diagnosis has not been established, assign the appropriate code(s) for each of the presenting signs and symptoms, such as	R05 Cough R06.02 Shortness of breath R50.9 Fever, unspecified
Do not assign	B34.2 Coronavirus infection, unspecified, would in general not be appropriate for the COVID-19, because the cases have universally been respiratory in nature, so the site would not be “unspecified”.
Do not assign	B97.29 if the provider documents “suspected” or “probable” COVID-19. Assign a code(s) explaining the reason for encounter (such as fever, or Z20.828).

If you have any questions concerning this Newsletter, please contact DXC Technology Provider Services at 1-800-776-6334.

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