

ISSUE DATE November 10, 2022	EFFECTIVE DATE December 5, 2022	NUMBER 24-22-32
SUBJECT At-Home Over-The-Counter COVID-19 Tests		BY  Sally A. Kozak, Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs

IMPORTANT REMINDER: All providers must revalidate the Medical Assistance (MA) enrollment of each service location every 5 years. Providers should log into PROMISE to check the revalidation dates of each service location and submit revalidation applications at least 60 days prior to the revalidation dates. Enrollment (revalidation) applications may be found at: <https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/PROMISE-Enrollment.aspx>.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to advise providers of the billing and payment related updates to the Medical Assistance (MA) Program Fee Schedule for U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized over-the-counter (OTC) SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) tests, effective with dates of service on and after December 5, 2022.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to MA enrolled pharmacies who render services to MA beneficiaries in the fee-for-service (FFS) and managed care delivery systems. Providers rendering services to MA beneficiaries in the managed care delivery system should contact the appropriate managed care organization (MCO) with any billing and payment questions.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued guidance on August 30, 2021, regarding Medicaid coverage and reimbursement of COVID-19 testing under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP). See State Health Official letter #21-003 (<https://www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/sho-21-003.pdf>). CMS' guidance provided that under ARP, states must cover both diagnostic and screening tests for COVID-19. In addition, all types of FDA-authorized COVID-19 tests must be covered under CMS' interpretation of the ARP testing coverage requirements, including "point of care" or

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

Fee-for-service provider service center: 1-800-537-8862

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs website at:

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Health%20Care%20for%20Providers/Contact-Information-for-Providers.aspx>

“home” tests that have been provided to a Medicaid beneficiary by a qualified Medicaid provider of COVID-19 tests. Home tests include those where a specimen is collected at home and then sent to a clinical laboratory or other certified testing site for testing and those that are entirely performed at home, meaning the test system includes the ability to perform the test without involvement of a laboratory.

On February 1, 2022, the Department issued MA Bulletin 24-21-55 to advise providers that the Department would pay for OTC COVID-19 tests for dates of service on and after August 30, 2021, with procedure code T1999. The MA Program currently covers COVID-19 laboratory tests, OTC and at-home COVID-19 tests.

On April 4, 2022, CMS established a separate procedure code, K1034, and guidance for coverage and payment for OTC COVID-19 tests. The MA Program will now use procedure code K1034 for OTC and at-home COVID-19 tests provided to MA beneficiaries by enrolled pharmacies without cost-sharing.

There is no cost-sharing for OTC COVID-19 tests.

PROCEDURE:

Effective with dates of services on and after December 5, 2022, providers will use procedure code K1034 when billing for OTC COVID-19 tests. Procedure code K1034, defined as “Provision of COVID-19 test, nonprescription self-administered and self-collected use, FDA approved, authorized or cleared, one test count,” was added to the MA Program Fee Schedule as follows for use when billing for OTC COVID-19 tests in the FFS delivery system. No prescription is required in the FFS delivery system. Providers should contact the applicable MCO regarding coding and payment questions for services provided to MA beneficiaries in the managed care delivery system.

Procedure Code	Description	Provider Type	Specialty	Place of Service	MA Fee	Prior Auth	MA Units	Limits
K1034	Provision of COVID-19 test, nonprescription self-administered and self-collected use, FDA approved, authorized or cleared, one test count	24	ALL	11	\$11.51	No	Per test	8 tests per month

NOTE: Kits may include more than one test, and the limit is 8 tests per month.

Effective with dates of service on and after December 4, 2022, the MA Program is ending procedure code T1999 for OTC COVID-19 tests. The MA Program Fee Schedule has been updated to reflect this change.

OBSOLETE BULLETIN:

This MA Bulletin obsoletes MA Bulletin 24-21-55, titled “At-Home Over-The-Counter COVID-19 Tests,” issued on February 1, 2022
(<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/docs/Publications/Documents/FORMS%20AND%20PUBS%20MAP/MAB2022020101.pdf>).

RESOURCES:

For up-to-date information about current FDA-authorized OTC COVID-19 tests, please refer to the FDA’s website at: <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-covid-19-and-medical-devices/home-otc-covid-19-diagnostic-tests>.

Providers may access the on-line version of the MA Program Fee Schedule, which reflects the above changes, via the Department’s website at:
<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Health%20Care%20for%20Providers/MA-Fee-Schedule.aspx>.