

ISSUE DATE May 30, 2023	EFFECTIVE DATE May 12, 2023	NUMBER 01-23-05, 24-23-05, 28-23-01
SUBJECT End-Dating COVID-19 Pharmacy Specimen Collection and Laboratory Testing Procedure Codes		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 Medical Assistance (MA) Bulletin is to advise providers that the Department of Human Services (Department) is end-dating three procedure codes related to the COVID-19 specimen collection by pharmacies and testing by laboratories, effective with dates of service on and after May 12, 2023.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to pharmacies, clinics and laboratories enrolled in the MA Program who render services to MA beneficiaries in the fee-for-service delivery system. Providers rendering services to MA beneficiaries in the managed care delivery system should contact the appropriate managed care organization with any coding or billing questions.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

On April 13, 2020, Pennsylvania's Department of State issued guidance that granted licensed pharmacists the authority to order, administer tests, and communicate results for COVID-19 tests. In response, the Department added the COVID-19 specimen collection procedure code G2023 to the MA Program Fee Schedule to be used for collection of the COVID-19 specimen by a licensed pharmacist. This guidance is no longer in effect as of the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) and therefore the procedure code was end-dated, for dates of service on and after May 12, 2023.

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>.

On April 14, 2020, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the creation of two new laboratory procedure codes to provide a higher payment for use of high-throughput technologies for increased testing capacity for the COVID-19 PHE. In response, the Department added procedure codes U0003 and U0004 to the MA Program Fee Schedule, to be used for laboratory testing to detect the SARS-CoV-2 virus. At the end of the COVID-19 PHE, these procedure codes were end-dated, for dates of service on and after May 12, 2023. Outpatient clinics and laboratories can continue to bill for laboratory testing for COVID-19 with procedure codes U0001 or U0002.

PROCEDURE:

The Department is end-dating the following procedure codes from the MA Program Fee Schedule, effective with dates of service on and after May 12, 2023:

Procedure Codes		
G2023	U0003	U0004

The Department updated the MA Program Fee Schedule to reflect the end-dating of the procedure codes mentioned in this MA Bulletin. Providers may access the online version of the MA Program Fee Schedule on the Department's website at:

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