

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM CIGNA

Extending the cost-share waiver for COVID-19 testing

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, we have taken important steps to deliver timely accommodations to providers and customers, helping to ensure that customers have continued access to COVID-19 screening, testing, and treatment in safe settings.

Accordingly, to align with the recent <u>extension</u> of the federal public health emergency (PHE) period, we are again extending the cost-share waiver for COVID-19 testing and testing-related services through April 20, 2021.

#### **Getting the latest information**

We updated our dedicated <u>COVID-19 provider web page</u> on January 20, 2021 to highlight the latest information on the cost-share waiver extension for testing as well as other key topics, including:

- New covered diagnosis codes
- Additional frequently asked questions related to the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine
- Guidance for appropriately billing a specimen collection code

### Virtual care

As a reminder, we implemented a new Virtual Care Reimbursement Policy on January 1, 2021 for commercial medical services. This new policy ensures you can continue to offer many virtual care services to your patients and receive reimbursement at face-to-face rates. Please visit <a href="CignaforHCP.com/virtualcare">CignaforHCP.com/virtualcare</a> for more information about our new policy. We also continue to make a number of additional accommodations for virtual care through the PHE, as outlined in the virtual care frequently asked questions section on our <a href="COVID-19">COVID-19</a> provider web page.

**Please note:** This policy does *not* apply to participating behavioral providers. There have been no changes to Cigna's behavioral virtual care guidance, other than aligning with the extension of the PHE. For more information, please review Cigna Behavioral Health's <u>COVID-19 interim guidance</u>

#### Monoclonial antibody treatments are available

It has recently been <u>widely reported</u> that FDA Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)-approved antibody treatments from Eli Lilly (Bamlanivimab) and Regeneron (Casirivimab/Imdevimab) are underutilized, despite their potential ability to help treat individuals who have mild-to-moderate COVID-19 and are at a high-risk of developing severe symptoms and requiring hospitalization.

As a reminder, Cigna covers the administration of these medications with no customer

cost-share through February 15, 2021 when administered consistently with <u>EUA</u> guidelines and our <u>COVID-19 Drug and Biologic Therapeutics coverage policy</u>

Because many individuals are unaware of the treatments and where to receive them, we encourage providers, including hospitals, to prescribe the medications and arrange the infusion sites necessary to administer the drugs when medically necessary and prudent to do so. Cigna Case Managers will also continue to engage with providers, as necessary, to help facilitate the therapy for your patients who may be eligible. Working together, we believe we can help reduce the strain on already overburdened hospitals, and support the health and well-being of your patients.

To find locations that may be able to provide monoclonal antibody therapeutic treatments, resources are available to support you and your patients, including:

- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) <u>outpatient antibody</u> <u>treatment locator tool</u>, which displays locations that have received shipments of FDA EUA approved monoclonal antibody therapeutics within the past several weeks.
- <u>COVID-19 Antibody Treatment Locator</u>, which helps providers find infusion centers that are administering COVID-19 antibody therapies.

Thank you again for the quality care you provide and for all that you're doing to help our customers.

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