



July 29, 2022

APL 22-009 COVID-19 Guidance for Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plans

Dear Provider,

The Department of Health Care services (DHCS) released APL 22-009 to provide guidance on covered COVID-19 related treatment. Members who test positive or are presumed to have COVID-19 must be offered treatment quickly to decrease morbidity and mortality. KHS covers preventative therapies billed on a medical claim and treatment which includes specialized equipment and therapies for both pharmacological and non-pharmacological services or items that are not otherwise federally reimbursed. KHS also covers antibody testing.

COVID-19 vaccinations, administration, and at home tests are covered through Medi-Cal fee for service (MCRx). At-home COVID-19 antigen tests ordered through the pharmacy are covered through Medi-Cal Rx and in accordance with current CDC recommendations. Coverage is restricted to the specific COVID-19 antigen tests listed in the List of Covered EUA COVID-19 Antigen Tests. Medications can be delivered to the member's home. KHS will continue to offer case management and care coordination for members including assisting members with obtaining COVID-19 pre-exposure prophylaxis, testing, treating, and obtaining transportation to receive services. Appointments for members who have COVID-19 symptoms or test positive for COVID-19 are considered urgent and will need seen within 48 hours of appointment being requested.

If your office does not have the ability to provide the services needed to diagnose or treat a member, please refer to one of the "test to treat" sites included below. "Test-to-treat" programs highlight the importance of expediting treatment so that all those who test positive are expeditiously funneled into assessment for therapeutic treatment interventions. The federal government has stood up "test to treat" physical sites that enable this to occur within a single encounter for a member at a physical site.

Additional Resources to assist your office in learning more about treatment guidelines, locating a test to treat facility, or locating a COVID-19 therapeutics location:

NIH COVID-19 treatment guidelines: <https://www.covid19treatmentguidelines.nih.gov/>

The COVID-19 Therapeutics Locator: <https://covid-19-therapeutics-locator-dhhs.hub.arcgis.com/>

CDPH COVID-19 treatment resources: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Treatments.aspx>

CDPH information on Distribution and Ordering of Anti-SARS-CoV-2 Therapeutics:
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/COVID-19-Treatments-Distribution-and-Ordering.aspx>

PROVIDER Bulletin



KERN HEALTH SYSTEMS

COVID-19 Test to Treat Locations:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Test-to-treat-locations.aspx>

APL 22-009: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Documents/COVID-19/APL-22-009.pdf>

For any questions, please contact your Provider Relations Representative at 1-800-391-2000.

Sincerely,

Melissa McGuire

Deputy Director of Provider Network

Kern Health System