



Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Laboratory Transmittal No. 76
Managed Care Organizations No. 140
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To: Laboratories
 Managed Care Organizations

From: Alex Shekhdar, Acting Director *Alex Shekhdar*
 Medical Benefits Management

Re: UPDATE - COVID-19 Reimbursable Laboratory Codes

Note: Please ensure that appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this memorandum.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have announced new Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes for healthcare providers and laboratories to use when testing patients for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Additionally, the American Medical Association (AMA) Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Editorial Panel has also created codes for COVID-19 laboratory tests. In response, the Medicaid fee-for-service (FFS) program is reimbursing for these codes at 100% of the Medicare rate. Below is a summary of the codes, their descriptions, their effective dates, and the FFS reimbursement rate.

Note: This is an update to Laboratory Transmittal No. 74, which was issued on August 21, 2020. This transmittal adds new reimbursable laboratory codes for COVID-19 testing: 0202U, 0225U, 0226U, 86408, 86409, 86413, 87636, 87637, 87811, 0240U and 0241U. This is also an update to Managed Care Organization Transmittal No. 139, which was issued on August 21, 2020. These new COVID-19 testing laboratory codes qualify as self-referred services.

Code	Effective Date	CPT or HCPCS	Description	FFS Rate
U0001	2/4/20	HCPCS	CDC 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Real-Time RT-PCR Diagnostic Panel	\$35.92
U0002	2/4/20	HCPCS	2019-nCoV Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2/2019-nCoV (COVID-19), any technique, multiple types or subtypes (includes all targets), non-CDC	\$51.33

87635	3/16/20	CPT	Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique	\$51.33
86328	4/10/20	CPT	Immunoassay for infectious agent antibody(ies), qualitative or semiquantitative, single step method (e.g., reagent strip); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19])	\$45.23
86769	4/10/20	CPT	Antibody; severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19])	\$42.13
U0003	4/14/20	HCPCS	Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique, making use of high throughput technologies as described by CMS-2020-01-R	\$100.00
U0004	4/14/20	HCPCS	2019-nCoV Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2/2019-nCoV (COVID-19), any technique, multiple types or subtypes (includes all targets), non-CDC, making use of high throughput technologies as described by CMS-2020-01-R	\$100.00
0202U	5/20/20	HCPCS	Infectious disease (bacterial or viral respiratory tract infection), pathogen-specific nucleic acid (DNA or RNA), 22 targets including severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), qualitative RT-PCR, nasopharyngeal swab, each pathogen reported as detected or not detected	\$416.78
87426	6/25/20	CPT	Infectious agent antigen detection by immunoassay technique, (e.g., enzyme immunoassay [EIA], enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay [ELISA], immunochemiluminometric assay [IMCA]) qualitative or semiquantitative, multiple-step method; severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (e.g, SARS-CoV, SARSCoV-2 [COVID-19])	\$45.23
0223U	6/25/20	HCPCS	Infectious disease (bacterial or viral respiratory tract infection), pathogen-specific nucleic acid (DNA or RNA), 22 targets including severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), qualitative RT-PCR, nasopharyngeal swab, each pathogen reported as detected or not detected	\$416.78

0224U	6/25/20	HCPCS	Antibody, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), includes titer(s), when performed (Do not report 0224U in conjunction with 86769)	\$42.13
0225U	8/10/20	HCPCS	Infectious disease (bacterial or viral respiratory tract infection) pathogen-specific DNA and RNA, 21 targets, including severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), amplified probe technique, including multiplex reverse transcription for RNA targets, each analyte reported as detected or not detected	\$416.78
0226U	8/10/20	HCPCS	Surrogate viral neutralization test (sVNT), severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), ELISA, plasma, serum	\$42.28
86408	8/10/20	CPT	Neutralizing antibody, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]); screen	\$42.13
86409	8/10/20	CPT	Neutralizing antibody, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]); titer	\$105.33
86413	9/8/20	CPT	Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) antibody, quantitative.	\$42.13
87636	10/6/20	CPT	Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) antibody, quantitative.	\$142.63
87637	10/6/20	CPT	Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), influenza virus types A and B, and respiratory syncytial virus, multiplex amplified probe technique	\$142.63
87811	10/6/20	CPT	Infectious agent antigen detection by immunoassay with direct optical (ie, visual) observation; severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19])	\$41.38
0240U	10/6/20	HCPCS	Infectious disease (viral respiratory tract infection), pathogen-specific RNA, 3 targets (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2	\$142.63

			[SARS-CoV-2], influenza A, influenza B), upper respiratory specimen, each pathogen reported as detected or not detected	
0241U	10/6/20	HCPCS	Infectious disease (viral respiratory tract infection), pathogen-specific RNA, 4 targets (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 [SARS-CoV-2], influenza A, influenza B, respiratory syncytial virus [RSV]), upper respiratory specimen, each pathogen reported as detected or not detected	\$142.63

When billing for HCPCS codes U0003 and U0004, please note the following:

- 1) U0003 should identify tests performed with high throughput technologies that would otherwise be billed using CPT code 87635.
- 2) U0004 should identify tests performed with high throughput technologies that would otherwise be billed using U0002.
- 3) Neither U0003 nor U0004 should be billed for tests that detect COVID-19 antibodies.

Payment for Specimen Collection for Purposes of COVID-19 Testing

In addition to the codes above, CMS has created two HCPCS codes for COVID-19 specimen collection to provide reimbursement to independent laboratories for specimen collection from beneficiaries who are homebound or inpatient, but not in a hospital setting, under certain circumstances.

Independent laboratories can bill FFS for the specimen collection fee. The specimen collection fee applies if the specimen is collected by trained laboratory personnel from a homebound individual or non-hospital inpatient. Excluded are specimens that only require the services of a messenger to pick up the specimen or when a patient collects his or her own specimen.

Effective Date	HCPCS Code	Description	FFS Rate
3/1/20	G2023	Specimen collection for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), any specimen source	\$23.46
3/1/20	G2024	Specimen collection for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), from an individual in a SNF or by a laboratory on behalf of a HHA, any specimen source	\$25.46

If you have any questions about the contents of this transmittal, please contact:

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