

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 2130-MC-FFS-CVD

DATE: May 19, 2020

TO: Iowa Medicaid Hospital, Physician MD, Physician DO, Podiatrist, Optometrist, Rural Health Clinic (RHC), Clinic, Community Mental Health Center (CMHC), Psychologist, Certified Nurse Midwife, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA), Clinical Social Worker, Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), Nurse Practitioner (NP), Behavioral Health and Physician Assistant Providers, Area Education Agency (AEA), and Local Education Agency (LEA)

APPLIES TO: Managed Care (MC), Fee-for-Service (FFS), Coronavirus Disease (CVD)

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Additional Codes Related to Coronavirus and Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

The purpose of this Informational Letter is to provide guidance on additional codes related to coronavirus and COVID-19.

The IME and the Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) continue to closely monitor the guidance provided from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Iowa Department of Public Health ([IDPH](https://idph.iowa.gov)¹), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](https://www.cdc.gov)²), and Johns Hopkins University [Coronavirus Resource Center](https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/)³ regarding the COVID-19 outbreak caused by the novel coronavirus, SARS-COV-2. In an effort to provide up-to-date information the Department has posted information related to the Coronavirus and COVID-19 on its [website](#)⁴. Additional information will be added to the DHS website as it becomes available.

¹ <https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus>

² https://www.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/outreachffsprovpartprogprovider-partnership-email-archive/2020-02-27#_Toc33530673

³ <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/>

⁴ <https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/providers/claims-and-billing/coronavirus>

CMS updated the COVID-19 coding guidance for the new ICD-10-CM diagnosis code, U07.1, for COVID-19, and changed the effective date of the new diagnosis code from October 1, 2020, to April 1, 2020.

In addition, CMS and the American Medical Association (AMA) have issued COVID-19 coding guidance related to Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) and Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes for payment for laboratory tests and specimen collection for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 or the diagnosis of the virus that causes COVID-19. See the [CMS](#)⁵ and [AMA](#)⁶ announcements for further information about the use of some of these codes.

The following table lists the laboratory codes for COVID-19 testing:

Procedure Code	Description	Effective Date
86318* *Revised Code Description	Immunoassay for infectious agent antibody(ies), qualitative or semiquantitative, single step method (e.g., reagent strip);	April 10, 2020
86328	Severe acute respiratory syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19])	April 10, 2020
86769	Antibody; severe acute respiratory syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19])	April 10, 2020
87635	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	March 13, 2020
U0001	CDC 2019 novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) real-time RT-PCR diagnostic panel	March 6, 2020
U0002	2019-nCoV Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2/2019-nCoV (COVID-19), any technique, multiple types or subtypes (includes all targets), non-CDC	March 6, 2020
U0003	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.	April 14, 2020

⁵ <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/cms-2020-01-r.pdf>

⁶ <https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/2020-04/cpt-assistant-guide-coronavirus-april-2020.pdf>

Procedure Code	Description	Effective Date
U0004	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.	April 14, 2020

The following table lists the specimen collection codes for COVID-19 testing:

Procedure Code	Description	Effective Date
G2023	Specimen collection for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (sars-cov-2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), any specimen source.	March 1, 2020
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.	March 1, 2020

The following table lists the ICD-10-CM code for COVID-19:

Diagnosis Code	Description	Effective Date
U07.1	COVID-19	April 1, 2020

The following code was included in Informational Letter 2115-MC-FFS, this code is not a covered service.

Procedure Code	Description	Effective Date
99491	Chronic care management services, provided personally by a physician or other qualified health care professional, at least 30 minutes of physician or other qualified health care professional time, per calendar month, with the following required elements: multiple (two or more) chronic conditions expected to last at least 12 months, or until the death of the patient; chronic conditions place the patient at significant risk of death, acute exacerbation/decompensation, or functional decline; comprehensive care plan established, implemented, revised, or monitored.	March 6, 2020

If you have questions, please contact the appropriate MCO or the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909 or email at imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us