

March 17, 2020

North Dakota (ND) Medicaid: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Frequently Asked Questions

Are telemedicine visits from home covered?

Yes, ND Medicaid covers telemedicine services, including those that originate from a member or provider's home. More information about telemedicine coverage is available in the [telemedicine](#) section of the General Information for Providers Manual. If the member's home is used as the originating site, no originating site fee may be billed to ND Medicaid. If the visit originates from a clinic, inpatient hospital, outpatient hospital, or skilled nursing facility/nursing facility, the originating site fee may be billed to ND Medicaid. Services that are not covered via telemedicine: therapies provided in a group setting, store and forward, targeted case management for high risk pregnant women and infants and targeted case management for individuals in need of long-term care services. Providers should use codes as noted in the following table:

Applicable Modifier(s)	GT; and 95	Via interactive audio and video telecommunication systems
Applicable Revenue Codes(s)	780	Telemedicine – facility charges related to the use of telemedicine
HCPCS Code(s)	Q3014	Telehealth originating site facility fee
Place of Service	02	Telehealth - the location where health services and health related services are provided or received, through a telecommunication system

Does ND Medicaid cover testing for COVID-19?

Yes. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) created new Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes for providers and laboratories to bill for the test. The new HCPCS code will be available for billing on April 1, 2020.

What code should providers use to bill testing for COVID-19?

Providers should use the newly designated HCPCS code U0001 to bill for testing for COVID-19 using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2019) Novel Coronavirus Real Time RT-PCR diagnostic test panel. HCPCS code U0002 can be used by laboratories and healthcare facilities to bill for testing using any technique, multiple types or subtypes (includes all targets). ND Medicaid will accept these codes after April 1, 2020 for services provided on or after February 4, 2020.

What is the reimbursement rate for the test for COVID-19?

ND Medicaid developed a rate for COVID-19 testing based on the established Medicare rates. ND Medicaid will reimburse \$35.91 for U0001 and \$51.31 for U0002.

Will HCPCS U0001 and U0002 be available retroactively for billing?

Yes. ND Medicaid will follow Medicare's policy and make the codes retroactively effective to February 4, 2020. The code will not be available to be billed until after April 1, 2020.

MEDICAL SERVICES

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What ICD-10 code should providers use to indicate a patient has a diagnosis of COVID-19?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued interim guidance relating to coding for COVID-19 related illness: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/icd/ICD-10-CM-Official-Coding-Guidance-Interim-Advice-coronavirus-feb-20-2020.pdf>.

Can ND Medicaid members get extra medicine or supplies?

ND Medicaid's dispensing limits have not changed. Medicaid members should continue to get supplies on an as-needed basis and should not stockpile medications or supplies. Providers should consider using mail and delivery to send medications and supplies to members' homes when possible.

What if a member is out of state and requires COVID-19 testing or treatment?

For providers to be reimbursed for tests and/or services provided to ND Medicaid members, the provider and agency must be enrolled with ND Medicaid. If an out of state provider needs to enroll with ND Medicaid, more information is available at <http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/provider-enroll-app.html>.

Other Information

If a vaccine becomes available, ND Medicaid will provide additional information on codes and pricing as it becomes available.

What is ND Medicaid doing to address COVID-19? ND Medicaid will release additional guidance in the future regarding the Department and Medicaid response to COVID-19. At this point, the Department is considering the different CMS authorities that would allow for flexibility including: 1135 waiver and changes that can be made within the current appropriation and regulations. Note that any changes that would significantly impact ND Medicaid's legislatively approved appropriation would need to be approved by the legislature.

How are Medicaid eligibility and redeterminations being addressed?

Medicaid does not require face to face interviews for eligibility or redetermination. We encourage utilizing telephonic or online methods. Applications for Medicaid can be completed online at: <https://www.nd.gov/dhs/eligibility/>. For further information, contact your human service zone (<http://www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/countysocialserv/>).

Where can I get information and updates about the coronavirus and COVID-19?

Information is available from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Information about North Dakota's response and updates about the coronavirus (COVID-19) is available from the North Dakota Department of Health at <https://www.health.nd.gov/diseases-conditions/coronavirus>.

ND Medicaid will not be initiating any new provider audits during the COVID-19 situation.