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Provider Bulletin

News and Information

March 12, 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Coverage Guidance

UCare is committed to protect our members and the community from the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

UCare is following the guidance released by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) regarding coding for COVID-19 testing for all UCare plans. Last month, CMS developed the first HCPCS code (U0001) to bill for tests and track new cases of the virus. This code is used specifically for CDC testing laboratories to test patients for SARS-CoV-2. The second HCPCS billing code (U0002) was announced to allow laboratories to bill for non-CDC laboratory tests for SARS-CoV-2/2019-nCoV (COVID-19). This second HCPCS code may be used for tests developed by these additional laboratories when submitting claims to UCare.

The following links provide additional information:

- Press Release, March 5, 2020 CMS Develops Additional Code for Coronavirus Lab Tests
- CMS Medicare Fact Sheet
- CMS Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Fact Sheet
- CMS Individual and Small Group Market Insurance Coverage Fact Sheet

UCare will waive all copays, coinsurance or deductibles for doctor-ordered COVID-19 tests meeting CDC guidelines for members in all of our plans for the immediate future. In addition, UCare will waive all member cost sharing for office visits and urgent care visits associated with COVID-19 testing at an in-network clinic and out-of-network clinics if innetwork alternatives are not available. Coverage for COVID-19 treatment or hospitalization will continue to follow the benefits and cost sharing for services that apply to the member's health plan.

Medicare and Individual & Family plan members may ask their health care provider for a 90-day supply of maintenance medications and are encouraged to use mail order services to minimize exposure. State public program members are limited to 30-day quantities by the state of Minnesota. We will continue to work with state leaders and public health authorities to ease requirements as necessary.

Medicare plan members can use their <u>Healthy Savings</u> over-the-counter benefit to purchase items such as masks, gloves or hand sanitizers at participating stores. Note that supplies may be low at this time.

UCare will not be able to cover lost wages or non-health care costs associated with the 14-day quarantine.

The COVID-19 situation is changing quickly, and we are monitoring changes closely. Our policies and coverage will be adjusted as needed to help contain the spread and protect members and the community. Please see the UCare FAQs for additional information and updates.