

FEDERAL GUIDANCE

What information can you provide on the Federal Legislation that passed on March 18, 2020?

Update 10/8

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (HR 6201) (“Act”) requires group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage (including grandfathered plans) to cover COVID-19 diagnostic testing and certain COVID-19 diagnostic testing related items and services without cost sharing (deductibles, copayments and coinsurance), prior authorization or other medical management requirements.

- This coverage includes the COVID-19 diagnostic test and a COVID testing-related visit to order or administer the test. A testing related visit may occur in a health care provider’s office or through a telehealth visit.
- For plans with in- network and out- of- network benefits cost sharing (copayments, coinsurance and deductibles) will not apply.
- For plans with in-network benefits only, cost sharing (copayments, coinsurance, deductibles) will not apply for out-of-network emergency services or when an in- network provider is not available.
- Telehealth services apply both in and out-of-network.
- The Act is effective March 18, 2020 to apply retroactively. Currently our approach will be to have these guidelines in place on April 1 and then re-adjust the claims to meet the March 18 effective date.

What determines the end of the Public Health Emergency? Updated 7/20/21

The guidance in the link explains that on 4/26/2020, the emergency was extended for 90 days, which would be July 24, 2020 and then extended again for 90 days, which would be October 22, 2020 and was extended a third time through October 17, 2021.

<https://www.phe.gov/emergency/news/healthactions/phe/Pages/default.aspx>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Where can we get additional information? Update 3/1/2021

- CDC Vaccine Finder: <https://vaccinefinder.org/search/>
- [8 things to know about COVID-19 vaccines](#) from the CDC
- [Authorized COVID-19 vaccines](#) from the FDA

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- [COVID-19 vaccine myths debunked](#)
- [FDA COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [UnitedHealthcare COVID-19 Member Resource Center](#) - Health care professionals, partners, customers and members can expect timely UnitedHealthcare communications on [uhc.com](#), [members' online UnitedHealthcare accounts](#) and [uhcprovider.com](#) regarding COVID-19 vaccine access, coverage and cost.
- [8 things to know about COVID-19 vaccines](#) from the CDC
- [Authorized COVID-19 vaccines](#) from the FDA
- [COVID-19 vaccine myths debunked](#)
- [CDC COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [FDA COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine myths debunked from the Mayo Clinic: <https://www.mayoclinichealthsystem.org/hometown-health/featured-topic/covid-19-vaccine-myths-debunked?fbclid=IwAR3z-ddtLMoRDJIFVJrVjdiA1qGNMvZaoulvBjaTjZFLce8KzfjVaM3bux4>
- Pharmacies participating in the COVID-19 vaccination program: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/long-term-care/pharmacy-partnerships.html>

Vaccine Billing Resources for providers

- [CMS Enrollment for Administering COVID-19 Vaccine Shots](#)
- [CMS Medicare Billing for COVID-19 Vaccine Shot Administration](#)
- [CMS Coding for COVID-19 Vaccine Shots](#)
- [CMS COVID-19 Vaccine Shot Payment](#)
- [Roster Billing Guidance](#)
- [UnitedHealthcare COVID-19 Vaccine Guidance](#)

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