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.


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
  • 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