

COVID-19 laboratory testing guidance

This communication applies to the Medicaid programs for Simply Healthcare Plans, Inc. and Clear Health Alliance (Simply) and the Florida Healthy Kids program for Simply Healthcare Plans, Inc.

On March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 20-51 declaring a state of emergency related to the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The purpose of notice is to provide guidance on Medicaid and Florida Healthy Kids coverage requirements related to laboratory testing for COVID-19.

Simply will cover all medically necessary services required to facilitate testing and treatment of COVID-19, including testing for COVID-19 consistent with national guidelines. The table details coverage of COVID-19 laboratory testing, categorized by the type of test and detection method. Simply will provide coverage of the following tests effective with the coverage date provided in the table:

Test Category	Detection Method	Procedure Code	Effective Date
CDC testing	Real-Time RT-PCR diagnostic panel	U0001	02/04/2020
Non-CDC testing	Any technique	U0002	02/04/2020
	Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA)	87635	03/13/2020
Rapid testing using high throughput technologies as described by CMS	Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA)	U0003	04/14/2020
	Any technique	U0004	04/14/2020
Other rapid testing	Antibody testing	86328	04/10/2020
	Antibody testing	86769	04/10/2020

Additional information

- Providers cannot use U0001-U0004 or 87635 for antibody testing.
- In order to be reimbursed for antibody testing, the test must be:
 - Authorized by the Food and Drug Administration, including Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). For a list of approved tests, please visit: <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/emergency-situations-medical-devices/emergency-use-authorizations>.
 - Ordered by a Florida licensed physician.
 - Performed by a laboratory that has CLIA certification or a certificate of waiver.

<https://provider.simplyhealthcareplans.com/florida-provider>

<https://provider.clearhealthalliance.com/florida-provider>

Simply Healthcare Plans, Inc. is a Managed Care Plan with a Florida Medicaid contract. Simply Healthcare Plans, Inc. dba Clear Health Alliance is a Managed Care Plan with a Florida Medicaid contract.

Simply Healthcare Plans, Inc. is a Managed Care Plan with a Florida Healthy Kids contract.

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In accordance with the Food and Drug Administration guidance, serological tests for COVID-19 are used to detect antibodies against the SARS-CoV-2 virus and are intended for use in the diagnosis of the disease or condition of having current or past COVID-19 infection, but **such tests should not be used as the sole basis for diagnosis.**

For more information regarding our response to COVID-19 and updated guidelines, visit the Provider News section of our websites at:

- <https://provider.simplyhealthcareplans.com/florida-provider>
- <https://provider.clearhealthalliance.com/florida-provider>

For more COVID-19 related information and alerts from the Agency for Health Care Administration, visit https://ahca.myflorida.com/covid-19_alerts.shtml.