



Department of Health Care Finance Informational Bulletin

DATE: March 3, 2020
FROM: Lisa Truitt
Director, Health Care Delivery Management Administration
SUBJECT: HCPCS Billing Code for Coronavirus Lab Test

The purpose of this Informational Bulletin is to inform all District of Columbia Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs) and the Child and Adolescent Supplemental Security Income Program (CASSIP) Contractor, hereinafter referred to as MCO, of the new Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code for billing and tracking of services to address the Coronavirus.

On February 20, 2020, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced creation of a new HCPCS code, (U0001), for providers and laboratories to test patients for the Coronavirus, or SARS-CoV-2, to enable better public health tracking¹. DHCF is working with its Fiscal Agent (Conduent) to update the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) to include this new code. Conduent has confirmed that the code will be effective April 1, 2020, for claims processing of dates of service starting February 4, 2020. This means the code will be included in the April 2020 quarterly release of HCPCS.

Typically, Conduent prices a code at 80% of Medicare, as aligned with DHCF policy. DHCF will alert all MCOs of the pricing as soon as it is finalized.

Up-to-date information can be found on the District's official website for the Coronavirus: <http://dchealth.dc.gov/coronavirus>.

For questions regarding this Informational Bulletin, contact Abby Kahn, Compliance Officer, DHCF Division of Quality and Health Outcomes at abigail.kahn@dc.gov or (202) 442-4650.

¹ “[Public Health News Alert: CMS Develops New Code for Coronavirus Lab Test](#).” Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), February 13, 2020.