

April 9, 2020

Dear Dean Health Plan Provider:

Thank you for providing high-quality services to our members during the rapidly-evolving novel coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency. We will release a notification every Thursday to keep you informed of new and updated interim COVID-19 health plan policies to support our members and you during this time. We will communicate urgent information quickly outside of these weekly notifications, should the need arise.

This notification contains information regarding:

- Expanding covered services at \$0 cost share
- Modifier CS
- New codes and travel allowance for specimen collecting

Expanding Covered Services at \$0 Cost Share

Effective immediately, Dean Health Plan is temporarily expanding \$0 cost sharing to include in-network hospitalizations for COVID-19 with no member out-of-pocket costs. This applies to the following products: Commercial (fully-insured, including ACA), SSM Health Employee Health Plan, Medicare, and Medicaid. Expanded cost sharing for in-network hospitalizations for the Dean Administrative Services Only (ASO) product will be available to employer groups at their discretion.

As previously communicated, Dean Health Plan is waiving member copayments and cost sharing for in-network diagnostic screenings and associated evaluation and management (E&M) services related to COVID-19.

Modifier CS

For dates of service on and after March 18, 2020, Dean Health Plan accepts modifier CS when billing E&M services related to the administration of a COVID-19 test or to the evaluation of a patient for purposes of determining the need for such a test. Modifier CS will allow us to accurately waive member cost share on services related to COVID-19 testing.

Providers may submit corrected claims to include modifier CS if member cost share was applied to a service related to COVID-19 testing on a previously processed claim.

New Codes and Travel Allowance for Specimen Collection

For dates of service on and after March 1, 2020, Dean Health Plan accepts the new CMS HCPCS codes for COVID-19 specimen collection:

- G2023 — Specimen collection for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), any specimen source
- G2024 — Specimen collection for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), from an individual in a skilled nursing facility or by a laboratory on behalf of a home health agency, any specimen source

The laboratory technicians must personally draw the sample and collect the specimen from a homebound or nursing home patient. Enlisting a messenger service for a specimen pick up does not qualify.

A travel allowance may be provided to laboratory technicians collecting specimens for COVID-19 testing from non-hospital inpatient or homebound patients under existing codes P9603 and P9604.

Additional Health Plan Information

For additional health plan information and previous provider communications, refer to our [COVID-19 provider information web page](#) link located at the top of all [deancare.com](#) web pages. Providers are encouraged to check our website regularly for new and updated information.

Please contact your assigned Provider Network Consultant with any questions.

Thank you again for your continued care of our members.

Sincerely,



Loretta A. Lorenzen
Vice President- Network Management & Contracting