

PDL UPDATE: COVID-19 Billing



April 28, 2020

BILLING UPDATE

Dear Client:

Pacific Diagnostic Laboratories (PDL) is committed to do our part in the local, state and federal efforts to respond to the coronavirus outbreak. We are expediting the availability of diagnostic testing for our community, health providers and their patients by offering COVID-19 Testing) authorized under the FDA Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) protocols.

Effective April 23, 2020, we will bill and accept as payment in full for any COVID-19 testing the amounts paid by Medicare, Medi-Cal and commercial health plans – no patient payment is required. We intend this COVID-19 test billing policy to align with the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the most recent Medicare and Medi-Cal guidance and applicable commercial health plan guidance. Both Medicare and Medi-Cal will fully cover COVID-19 testing for beneficiaries (with no co-payments). In addition, CARES requires all commercial health plans offering group or individual health insurance per enrollee to fully cover COVID-19 testing with no co-payments.

Likewise, the State of California is authorized by CARES to provide free Medi-Cal coverage for COVID-19 testing for uninsured California residents, including those not enrolled in such commercial health plans and we anticipate that will occur.

According to what is publicly communicated as of this update, patients will not receive a bill for the cost of the COVID-19 test if uninsured or be required to pay a co-pay / deductible if insured.

Finally, in accordance with CARES, we are also required to publish our price for COVID-19 PCR Testing:

- LabCorp \$51.31
- Sonic \$70
- PDL \$70

A processing fee of \$20 will be added to specimens sent to LabCorp or Sonic. COVID-19 respiratory specimens collected by PDL will have a \$23.46 collection fee. Please note that prices from our referral laboratories may change and PDL will bill in accordance to the referral lab charges.

RESOURCES/INFORMATION AVAILABLE

CMS Partner Toolkit: <https://www.cms.gov/outreach-education/partner-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-partner-toolkit>

Center for Disease Control: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/index.html>

If you have additional questions, please contact PDL client services at (805) 879-8100.