## 1. For pharmacies performing COVID-19 testing, what does Ohio Medicaid cover through the pharmacy benefit?

Currently, Ohio Medicaid will reimburse enrolled pharmacies for COVID-19 <u>diagnostic</u> testing.  This does not include serology (i.e. antibody) testing.  Furthermore, pharmacies are reimbursed for <u>specimen collection only</u>.  Materials and personal protective equipment (PPE) used for collection are not separately reimbursable.

## 2. My pharmacy is planning on performing supervision of specimen collection by asking the patient to self-swab.  Does Ohio Medicaid allow this for reimbursement purposes?

Yes. Pharmacies will be reimbursed at the same rate for collection performed by a pharmacy staff member or by supervised patient self-collection.

## 3. Who qualifies for COVID-19 diagnostic testing?

Pharmacy providers that offer testing should be familiar with the COVID-19 Testing Guidance (https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/docs/COVID-19-Testing-Guidance.pdf) issued by the Ohio Department of Health.  This document specifies patient populations that qualify for testing in accordance with state priorities.

## 4. Are there any regulatory requirements for performing COVID-19 testing?

Providers performing COVID-19 testing should be familiar with (and in compliance with) all regulations concerning laboratory diagnostic testing.  Providers are encouraged to review guidance from the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy, the Ohio Department of Health, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Inserted below are my attempts to include appropriate links…please verify this is what's intended.

OHIO PHARMACY BOARD – LINK TO COVID TESTING

   https://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/Documents/Pubs/Special/COVID19Resources/Expansion%20of%20Pharmacist%20Pharmacy%20Intern%20and%20Certified%20Pharmacy%20Technician%20Testing%20Authority%20During%20COVID-19.pdf

CMS

   Medicare Pharmacies and Other Suppliers May Temporarily Enroll as Independent Clinical Diagnostic Laboratories to Help Address COVID-19 Testing (PDF)

## 5. How should a claim be submitted for COVID-19 diagnostic testing at a pharmacy?

For Fee-for-Service members, submit claims to Change Healthcare in accordance with the payer sheet located here.  For Medicaid Managed Care members, submit claims according to the instructions communicated directly from the managed care plan.  All Ohio Medicaid managed care plans currently have mechanisms in place to reimburse for this service.

## 6. What is the reimbursement rate?

The current reimbursement rate is $ 23.46 for all members (FFS and managed care).

## 7. Where should specimens collected at the pharmacy be sent?

Specimens collected for diagnostic testing purposes need to be sent to an approved clinical laboratory for analysis. Prior to initiating specimen collection, pharmacies should make arrangements with a clinical laboratory for analysis. Pharmacy providers can consult the FDA's list of laboratories that have an individual emergency use authorizations (EUAs) to process molecular diagnostic tests for SARS-CoV-2.

Examples of labs that may have capacity to work with Ohio health care providers:
- Curative – saliva.
- Spectrum Health – saliva.
- MAKO Medical – nasal swabs.
- Gravity Diagnostics – nasal swabs.

The State of Ohio has not conducted scientific evaluations of the methods and means of testing described. The information and private entities referenced in this document are not endorsed or approved by the State of Ohio.

## 8. Where can testing supplies and personal protective equipment (PPE) be obtained?

Pharmacies will be partnering with approved clinical laboratories for analysis (testing) of the specimens they collect. These clinical laboratory partners may provide testing supplies to pharmacies, depending on the business agreements between the two parties.

Pharmacy providers are encouraged to work with manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors to obtain PPE and alternate testing supplies.

## 9. Does Ohio Medicaid cover point-of-care diagnostic testing for COVID-19 at pharmacies?

At this time, COVID-19 point-of-care diagnostic testing is not covered under the pharmacy benefit. ODM is actively working to develop a reimbursement strategy to address this testing method. Guidance on pharmacy-based point-of-care testing will be forthcoming.

## 10. Who should I contact with additional questions?

Additional questions should be directed to the Ohio Medicaid Pharmacy Program at:
MEDICAID_PHARMACY@medicaid.ohio.gov. For questions specific to managed care plan policies/procedures, please direct those questions to the managed care plan.


Attachment: In Vitro Diagnostic Testing

This document contains a summary of *in vitro* diagnostic testing methods and types of devices that can be used to detect parts of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and diagnose infection with the SARS-CoV-2 virus (i.e. to diagnose COVID-19.)

While intended to be helpful to health care providers that are considering offering COVID-19 testing, this document contains a small subset of information on the topic of *in vitro* diagnostic testing, and providers are encouraged to conduct additional research. The State of Ohio has not conducted scientific evaluations of the methods and means of testing described. The information and private entities referenced in this document are not endorsed or approved by the State of Ohio. The state cannot guarantee the availability of devices and supplies needed to conduct the types of tests described below. This document was created at a point in time and will not incorporate future developments.

## Molecular Tests

- Lab-based PCR Test
    - "Gold standard" diagnostic test with high levels of sensitivity and specificity/accuracy.
    - Specialized equipment and trained staff are needed to perform test.
        - *Note: pooled testing uses this equipment*
    - Turnaround time: 48-72 hours.
    - Specimens collected with nasal swabs (NP or anterior nares) or saliva – depending on lab and device approval.
    - Health care provider may contract directly with labs to provide supplies and conduct testing.
    - See FDA site for list of EUAs.
        - There are a lot of companies that claim to have the capability.
    - Some known supply chain challenges exist for certain types of devices and supplies
    - Examples of labs that may have capacity to work with Ohio health care providers:
        - Curative – saliva. Individuals tested provide their own sample.
        - Spectrum – saliva.
        - MAKO – nasal swabs.
        - Gravity – nasal swabs.

- Rapid PCR Test
    - Available in point-of-care options
    - Not as accurate for asymptomatic patients, but more accurate than antigen testing
    - Turnaround time: 60 mins or less (based on low volume)
    - Known supply chain challenges exist
    - See FDA site for list of EUAs.
        - Currently approved platforms: Abbott ID NOW, Cepheid GeneXpert Xpress IV, Mesa Biotech Accula, Cue Health COVID-19 Test

## Antigen Tests

- Rapid Antigen Test
    - Available in point-of-care options
    - Least accurate in terms of both false positives and negatives
    - Turnaround time: 30 mins or less (based on low volume)
    - Less expensive, may be distributed more broadly
    - Emerging (?) supply chain challenges for currently approved devices
    - See FDA site for list of EUAs
        - Currently approved platforms: Becton-Dickinson Veritor and Quidel Sofia