

## COVID-19 Laboratory Testing Guidance – New Procedure Codes

*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). On June 12, 2020, the Agency for Health Care Administration provided [guidance](#) on Florida Medicaid coverage requirements for the antibody test. The purpose of this alert is to clarify Medicaid coverage of additional procedure codes used for COVID-19 laboratory testing. This notice also provides 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. New codes are listed in the table below, in addition to procedure codes previously covered for COVID-19 laboratory testing.

Test Category	Detection Method	Procedure Code	Effective Date
Diagnostic tests	Real-Time RT-PCR diagnostic panel	U0001	On or after 02/04/2020
	Any technique	U0002	On or after 02/04/2020
	Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA) amplified probe technique	87635	On or after 03/13/2020
	Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA) COVID-19 and influenza virus types A and B, multiplex amplified probe technique	87636	On or after 10/6/2020
	Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA) COVID-19 and influenza virus types A and B, and respiratory syncytial virus, multiplex amplified probe technique	87637	On or after 10/6/2020

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<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.

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Rapid testing using high throughput technologies as described by CMS	Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA)	U0003	On or after 04/14/2020
	Any technique	U0004	On or after 04/14/2020
Rapid Antigen Testing	Infectious agent antigen detection by immunoassay technique severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus	87426	On or after 6/25/20
	Infectious agent antigen detection by immunoassay technique, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus and influenza virus types A and B	87428	On or after 11/10/2020
	Infectious agent antigen detection by immunoassay with direct optical (in other words, visual) observation	87811	On or after 10/6/2020
Antibody Tests	Antibody testing, single step	86328	On or after 04/10/2020
	Antibody testing, multiple step	86769	On or after 04/10/2020
	Antibody, quantitative	86413	On or after 9/8/20
	Neutralizing antibody screen	86408	On or after 8/10/20
	Titer (child code to 86408)	86409	On or after 8/10/20

#### 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>. *Please note, the FDA routinely revokes and adds EUA approvals. Providers must check to ensure each test has EUA approval prior to rendering to a Medicaid recipient.*
  - Performed by a laboratory that has CLIA certification or a certificate of waiver.

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](https://ahca.myflorida.com/covid-19_alerts.shtml).