



GOBIERNO DE PUERTO RICO  
Administración de Seguros de Salud

**Normative Letter 20-0331-02**

March 31, 2020

**To: Managed Care Organizations (MCO's) contracted to offer services under the Government Health Plan Program (Plan Vital); Primary Care Physicians (PCP), Primary Medical Groups (PMG) and participants providers**

**Re: Coverage and Benefits Related to COVID-19**

Plan Vital provides a comprehensive health coverage to 1.2 million of beneficiaries in Puerto Rico, including Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Commonwealth and Dual Eligible (Medicare Part A, AB - Medicaid).

The purpose of this communication is to clarify that Plan Vital covers a broad range of benefits, which include as a mandatory requirement by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), for laboratory services ordered by the physician.

Recently, CMS developed a new Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code for providers and laboratories to test patients for COVID-19. As CMS mentioned in the attached release, the provider who needs to test a patient for Coronavirus Real Time RT-PCR Diagnostic Test Panel may bill it using the (U0001) and (U0002) codes. In addition, CPT 87635 may also be validly used to codify these claims.

Also, for Plan beneficiaries, the rapid laboratory test, used for rapid sampling and results, shall be covered by CPT 87899.

Accordingly, all the MCO's must modify the in claims system in order to process the bills submitted by providers and to closely monitor claims payments. No copay for this service will apply to the beneficiary, irrespective of what type of coverage they have.

Cordially,

  
Jorge E. Galva, JD, MHA  
Executive Director

