September 17, 2021

Blue Cross Policy on COVID-19 Testing

Dear Provider:

Blue Cross covers diagnostic viral detection and antibody COVID-19 testing with a healthcare provider order. Without a medical order, the member has to pay out of pocket for the test.

Blue Cross does **not** cover tests done for public health surveillance, or tests required to return to work or attend recreational events or groups. This includes, but is not limited to school, camps sporting events, or any other activity or venue that requires proof of a negative test. Do not bill Blue Cross for tests performed for elective reasons.

This policy is consistent with federal guidance from the departments of Labor, Health and Human Services and Treasury, as well as Louisiana state law.

When a COVID-19 test and a sick or regular visit are performed on the same day by the same provider, member cost share (copayment, deductible or coinsurance) applies for the visit.

For information on what Blue Cross is doing in response to COVID-19, visit our COVID-19 Provider Resources page, www.BCBSLA.com/providers then click on the link at the top of the page.

Sincerely,

Provider Operations
Health Services Division

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