



April 8, 2020

Re: Lowering Costs for Members Being Tested or Treated for COVID-19

Dear Providers,

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana previously announced our decision to cover all medically necessary **diagnostic tests** for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) without any out-of-pocket costs to members, as long as the tests are consistent with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) guidance.

To help our members get the care they need without the added stress of worrying what it will cost and to relieve the administrative burden for providers, we are now waiving member cost-sharing for COVID-19 **medical treatments**, including professional and facility services. This does not include medications obtained through a pharmacy.

Effective for dates of service April 1 through May 31, 2020, Blue Cross is waiving deductible, coinsurance and copayment amounts for the medical treatment of COVID-19 when services are performed by a Blue Cross-credentialed, Louisiana participating provider. **During this timeframe providers should not collect any cost share from members for these services as Blue Cross will pay the entire allowed amount.**

These changes are for individual members who buy their own healthcare coverage and those who are covered through a fully insured employer group. Self-insured employer groups have the option to waive their members' out-of-pocket costs for COVID-19 treatment if they desire. Once we identify the self-insured groups that have "opted-in" to waiving member cost share, we will publish the list of those groups on the iLinkBlue (www.BCBSLA.com/ilinkblue) message board.

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Be sure to visit our COVID-19 Provider Resources page, where you can easily access our latest provider communications. Go to www.BCBSLA.com/providers, then click on the "COVID-19 Provider Resources" link at the top of the page. We will continue to add updated information to this page as it develops.

For more information on what Blue Cross is doing for **members** during the COVID-19 crisis, visit www.BCBSLA.com/covid19.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hiral Arges". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Hiral Arges
VP, Provider Relations and Contracting
Network Administration
HA/bp