


Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

Health Plan Advisory No. 20-04

DATE: May 6, 2020 (Updated May 13, 2020)

TO: Nebraska Heritage Health Plans

FROM: Jeremy Brunssen, Interim Director 
Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care

BY: Cathy Kearney, Plan Management Administrator

RE: Managed Care Organization Temporary Suspension of Medicaid Copayments

This Health Plan Advisory is to notify Heritage Health plans of the temporary requirement to suspend Medicaid copayments required of Heritage Health beneficiaries. This effort is in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Nebraska has sought emergency federal authority to implement these changes.

In order to support beneficiaries through the COVID-19 emergency, effective May 1, 2020, copays for all services and medications are suspended. Heritage Health plans will continue to pay the Medicaid-allowed amount for services and medications and will not reduce payments for services that previously had been subject to copays. Heritage Health plans will identify all copays paid on or after May 1, 2020, and work with the provider or the member to reconcile and return the copay to the member.

Effective March 1, 2020, through April 30, 2020, all members enrolled with a Heritage Health plan who had a COVID-19 diagnosis or COVID-19 testing and provided a copayment for services or medications during this time frame will have these applicable copayments refunded. Utilizing the below diagnosis codes, Heritage Health plans will identify all impacted members and work with the provider or the member to reconcile and return the copay to the member.

ICD-10 Code	Description / Notes
U07.1	Lab confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19
U07.2	Epidemiological or clinical diagnosis of COVID-19 without lab confirmation
B97.29	Other coronavirus as cause of disease classified elsewhere
B34.2	Coronavirus infection, unspecified *CDC does not recommend using this code because all sites are known to be respiratory but it is being used in practice in some states
HCPCS or CPT	Description / Notes
U0001	CDC Coronavirus 2019-nCoV Real-Time PCR Diagnostic Panel
U0002	Non-CDC laboratory tests for COVID-19 SARS-Co-V-2
87635	Detection of SARS-CoV-2 and any pancoronavirus types or subtypes
U0003	<i>Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique, making use of high throughput technologies as described by CMS-2020-01-R</i>
U0004	<i>2019-nCoV Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2/2019-nCov (COVID-19), any technique, multiple types or subtypes (includes all targets), non-CDC, making use of high throughput technologies as described by CMS-2020-01-R</i>

This suspension of Medicaid copay requirements is temporary and will not exceed the duration of the public health emergency. Nebraska Medicaid will continue to monitor the COVID-19 emergency and will communicate any change to the copay waiver.

If you have questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Cathy Kearney at (402) 471-6529, or via email at: Catherine.Kearney@nebraska.gov. Health plans should also copy their contract manager.

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