



Date: November 4, 2021¹

To: Oregon Health Plan (OHP) providers

From: Nathan Roberts, Traditional Programs manager
Medicaid Programs

Subject: Fee-for-service coverage of COVID-19 home testing effective November 8, 2021

Effective November 8, 2021, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) will cover self-administered home COVID-19 antigen testing kits through pharmacy point-of-sale (POS) for fee-for-service OHP and CAWEM members who have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or who have had confirmed or suspected exposure to COVID-19. This coverage is for home tests as a diagnostic tool, not a general screening tool; and does not replace coverage for COVID-19 testing done in clinics and labs.

Qualifying products are tests FDA authorized for over the counter (OTC) sale that do not require an internet connection or a smartphone for test interpretation. These currently include:

- **BinaxNow self-test:** NDC 11877001140
- **QuickVue at-home test:** NDC 14613033972
- **Inteliswab rapid test:** NDC 08337000158

OHA will cover up to four units per month without a primary care provider's (PCP) order or prior authorization. OHA may cover more than four units per month when ordered by the PCP as a necessary component of an individualized care plan. For the purposes of determining the number of tests per month:

- One test is the collection and processing of one sample, regardless of package size or packaging directions.
- For example, a product that comes in a package with two tests and directs the user to use the second test 36 to 72 hours after the first is counted as two tests.

All other COVID-19 home test products, including those that require internet or a smartphone, require PCP order and prior authorization.

Why is this happening?

[Federal guidance issued August 30, 2021](#) requires that state Medicaid programs cover all COVID-19 testing products authorized by Emergency Use Authorization (EUA), including home tests.

What should you do?

Counsel your patients about this coverage change, and request prior authorization as appropriate.

¹ This memo, originally issued Oct. 29, 2021, has been updated to add that OHA will also cover self-administered COVID-19 home tests for CAWEM members.

Questions?

- **About prior authorizations for fee-for-service prescriptions:** Call the Oregon Pharmacy Call Center at 888-202-2126.
- **About physical health prescriptions for patients in a coordinated care organization (CCO):** Contact the CCO.

Thank you for your continued support of the Oregon Health Plan and the services you provide to our members.