



**Date:** October 23, 2020<sup>1</sup>

**To:** All enrolled OHP providers  
Coordinated care organizations (CCOs)

**From:** Lori Coyner, Medicaid Director

**Subject:** Oregon Health Plan (OHP) coverage of COVID-19 testing

On October 6, 2020, the Oregon Health Authority updated its [COVID-19 testing guidance for health care providers](#) to recommend that the following groups be tested regardless of whether they have symptoms:

- Close contacts of confirmed or presumptive COVID-19 cases.<sup>2</sup> The optimal time for testing of asymptomatic contacts is unknown, but 3–14 days after exposure is recommended based on data on testing sensitivity, which indicate that likelihood of a positive test in an infected person remains close to zero until day 3–4 after exposure.
- People exposed to COVID-19 in a congregate setting (e.g., residential care facilities, childcare facilities, group homes, schools, agricultural workplaces, food processing plants, jails or prisons, shelters).
- Migrant/seasonal agricultural workers upon arrival in Oregon.

Providers are strongly encouraged to consider this testing guidance when ordering COVID-19 tests.

### OHP coverage of COVID-19 testing

OHP covers COVID-19 viral testing for all OHP and CAWEM members who:

- Have symptoms consistent with COVID-19, and
- Are asymptomatic, when medically necessary and appropriate, and when ordered by a qualified health care provider.

Antibody (serology) testing is covered only as part of the diagnostic work up of multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C) **or** multisystem inflammatory syndrome in adults (MIS-A) for hospitalized persons. See the [Oregon Medicaid COVID-19 Provider Guide](#) for additional information.

### Helping patients apply for OHP or CAWEM coverage

Providers can refer anyone interested in applying for OHP to the online application at [ONE.Oregon.gov](http://ONE.Oregon.gov). Local OHP-certified community partners can help people apply for OHP. Find a community partner at [bit.ly/ohplocalhelp](http://bit.ly/ohplocalhelp). This help is free and available in several languages.

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<sup>1</sup> Originally issued 10/14/2020; updated 10/23/2020 to add that antibody (serology) testing is also covered for diagnostic workup of MIS-A for hospitalized persons.

<sup>2</sup> A confirmed case is a person who tests positive using a diagnostic test that has received Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from FDA. Presumptive cases are determined by LPHAs according to OHA's investigative guidelines.

Emergency-only (CAWEM) coverage is available for adults who do not meet OHP's immigration status requirements. Children under 19 who do not meet immigration status requirements qualify for full OHP through Cover All Kids.

### Questions?

- **About testing coverage for OHP fee-for-service (“open card”) members:** Contact Provider Services at [dmap.providerservices@dhsosha.state.or.us](mailto:dmap.providerservices@dhsosha.state.or.us) or call 800-336-6016 (Option 5).
- **About testing coverage for OHP members enrolled in CCOs:** Contact the member's CCO.

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