



Updated Coverage Announcement from CareFirst Relating to Testing and Treatment of COVID-19

We are now covering visits related to testing, and treatment, with no cost-sharing for our members. We are also making changes to make telehealth and other virtual care more accessible to our members. These changes are in effect for our fully insured members, and we are working with our self-insured members to provide the same or similar coverage.

The full scope of our actions to date are below:

- **Eliminated prior authorization requirements** for medically necessary diagnostic tests and covered services related to COVID-19 diagnosis.
- **Waived early medication refill limits** on 30-day maintenance medications.
- **Worked with our pharmacy partners** to provide free delivery of medications and assist with mailing prescriptions.
- **Waived cost sharing** (copays, coinsurance and deductibles) for in-network or out-of-network visits to a provider's office, lab fees or treatments related to COVID-19. Though CareFirst is waiving out-of-pocket costs, members may experience balance billing from out-of-network providers.
- **Encouraged the use of 24/7 nurse phone line** to virtually access clinical resources trained in the latest screening and testing referral protocols, at no cost to our members.
- **Encouraged the use of telemedicine and virtual sites of care** such as CareFirst Video Visit.
 - For telemedicine accessed through a CareFirst Video Visit, copays, coinsurance, and deductibles will be waived for the duration of this public health emergency—including behavioral health, lactation support, nutrition counseling and urgent care services.
 - For other provider sponsored telemedicine, CareFirst will continue to pay providers for those services, but members may be subject to copays, coinsurance or deductibles.
 - For clinician staff of primary care, general practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, OBGYN and associated nurse practitioners, CareFirst will pay for telephone-only consultations during this public health emergency, with no member out-of-pocket cost.
- **Rapidly expanded the scope of our contracted lab partners** to support access to testing as it becomes available.

www.carefirst.com will be updated with any changes. A link to our CEO's letter to our stakeholders can be found at <https://www.member.carefirst.com/members/pop-up/coronavirus-information-and-illness-prevention.page>.