

## SPOTLIGHT ON: AT-HOME COVID TEST KITS

This week, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) announced that, effective January 15th, insurance companies and group health plans will be required to cover the cost of At-Home Over-The-Counter (OTC) COVID-19 Antigen tests at no cost to members.

### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR OUR MEMBERS?

With this CMS ruling and guidance ruling, Vitori Health Pharmacy will add **U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized** at-home COVID-19 tests at zero (\$0) cost to members at network pharmacy point of sale under the pharmacy benefit plan, effective January 15th.

As a note, there are tests available that are not FDA approved, and these are not covered under the mandate.

Check the test box for the FDA indicator, or ask your pharmacist.

Members purchasing kits outside of a network pharmacy point of sale should keep all receipts and submit a Direct Member Reimbursement form for reimbursement per the guidelines.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### What quantity per member's is permitted at no cost for the OTC COVID-19 tests?

- At this time, per CMS guidelines, individuals can receive eight (8) tests per member, per month at zero (\$0) cost to the member without a prescription from a prescriber. An override can be allowed for additional test quantities with the validation of a written prescription for the member by a verified prescriber.

#### What if my plan has a deductible?

- COVID-19 tests are currently exempt from deductibles.

#### What is the cost of the COVID-19 tests?

- Per the CMS Guidelines, there is a maximum reimbursement of \$12 per test in place at network pharmacies. Additionally, since Vitori Pharmacy has a nationwide preferred pharmacy network where members can obtain their tests (at no cost to them) at the point of sale, the reimbursement for tests purchased outside of the preferred network is limited to \$12 per test. If a pharmacy submits a cost that is lower than \$12 then reimbursement will be at the lower cost.

#### What if I purchased an OTC COVID-19 test prior to 1/15/22?

- In compliance with CMS guidelines, Vitori Pharmacy will not reimburse for tests purchased before 1/15/22

#### When will these tests be available?

- Currently, the test can be processed through your plan's pharmacy benefit, but availability remains very limited due to demand. Adequate supply of OTC COVID-19 tests will be essential. The estimated resolution to the current national shortage of tests is unknown at this time.

PLEASE VISIT [WWW.CMS.GOV/HOW-TO-GET-YOUR-OTC-COVID-19-TEST-FOR-FREE](http://WWW.CMS.GOV/HOW-TO-GET-YOUR-OTC-COVID-19-TEST-FOR-FREE) FOR MORE INFORMATION