



COVID-19 Antigen Tests Coverage Reminder

December 9, 2022

Effective on February 1, 2022, Over-the-Counter (OTC) Emergency Use of Authorization (EUA) United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-authorized, self-administered COVID-19 antigen test kits became a pharmacy-billed medical supply benefit through Medi-Cal Rx in accordance with current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations.

The following criteria applies for coverage:

- Restricted to either 1-test-per-kit or 2-tests-per-kit OTC EUA COVID-19 United States FDA-authorized, self-administered COVID-19 antigen tests listed in the [List of Covered Emergency Use Authorization \(EUA\) COVID-19 Antigen Tests](#); **and**
- Restricted to EUA for the diagnostic condition of suspected COVID-19 (Code I Restriction); **and**
- Restricted to up to 8 tests (4 kits for 2 tests/kit) per 30 days per beneficiary; **and**
- No refills allowed. The beneficiary would need to obtain a new prescription for each dispensing; **and**
- Dispensed from a pharmacy provider, written (or electronic equivalent) on a prescription signed by a licensed prescriber or a pharmacist.

Note: Prior authorization (PA) requests for quantities outside the allowed amounts will be denied unless ordered or administered by a pharmacy provider following an individualized clinical assessment and with appropriate clinical justification provided.

In order to receive a test or test kit, the beneficiary must be eligible for Medi-Cal on the date of service (DOS). Refer to the [Medi-Cal Rx Provider Manual](#) on the [Medi-Cal Rx Web Portal](#) for additional coverage and reimbursement information.

Quantity and frequency limits apply. For more information, refer to the [Medi-Cal Rx Provider Manual](#) on the Medi-Cal Rx Web Portal, *Section 17.4 Over-the-Counter (OTC) COVID-19 Antigen Test Kits*.

Refer to the related alert, published on January 26, 2022, [Medi-Cal Rx Coverage of Over-the-Counter COVID-19 Antigen Test Kits](#).

Contact Information

You can call the Medi-Cal Rx Customer Service Center (CSC) at 1-800-977-2273, which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year.

For other questions, email Medi-Cal Rx Education & Outreach at MediCalRxEducationOutreach@magellanhealth.com.

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