

Providers,

Below are some important updates with regards to billing for COVID testing:

Exposure to COVID-19:

For cases where there is a concern about a possible exposure to COVID-19, but this is ruled out after evaluation, assign code **Z03.818**, encounter for observation for suspected exposure to other biological agents ruled out.

For cases where there is an actual exposure to someone who is confirmed or suspected (not ruled out) to have COVID-19, and the exposed individual either tests negative or the test results are unknown, assign code **Z20.828**, contact with and (suspected) exposure to other viral communicable diseases.

Screening for COVID-19:

For asymptomatic individuals who are being screened for COVID-19 and have no known exposure to the virus, and the test results are either unknown or negative, assign code **Z11.59**, encounter for screening for other viral diseases.

*Many insurance companies have agreed to waive the patient-portion costs associated with COVID testing, usually including the office visit as well as the testing. However, each insurance company may handle the situation as they see fit. LabCorp, who processes and bills for us the actual COVID test itself, has agreed, for now, to not bill uninsured patients.

Confirmed COVID-19:

Code only a confirmed diagnosis of the 2019 novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) as documented by the provider, documentation of a positive COVID-19 test result, or a presumptive positive COVID-19 test result. For a confirmed diagnosis, assign code **U07.1**, COVID-19.

For additional information, please refer to <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/icd/COVID-19-guidelines-final.pdf>