ALABAMA MEDICAID AGENCY

A L E R T

May 12, 2020

<<<<NOTE: This ALERT is a follow-up to the ALERT dated March 13, 2020>>>>

TO: **Physicians, FQHCs, RHCs, Independent Labs, Hospitals, and ADPH**

RE: **Additional Laboratory Testing and Specimen Collection Codes for Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

As Medicaid continues to monitor the outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Alabama, we are including additional testing and specimen collection procedure codes for coverage.

- **U0003** Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID19]), 2 amplified probe technique, making use of high throughput technologies as described by CMS-2020-01-R

- **U0004** 2019-nCoV Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2/2019-nCoV (COVID-19), any technique, multiple types or subtypes (includes all targets), non-CDC, making use of high throughput technologies as described by CMS-2020-01-R

- **G2023** Specimen collection for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), any specimen source

- **G2024** Specimen collection for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), from an individual in a skilled nursing facility or by a laboratory on behalf of a home health agency, any specimen source

- **99001** Handling and/or conveyance of specimen for transfer from the patient in other than an office to a laboratory (not associated with E/M visit)

The Medicaid claims processing system will be able to accept these codes no later than **May 22, 2020** for dates of service on or after **March 1, 2020**.

During the COVID-19 emergency, it is important to file claims as quickly as possible to ensure payment from Medicaid is made to Medicaid providers close to the date of service. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has increased the federal matching percentage for the emergency time frame, but states can only receive the increased match on claims that are paid during the emergency.

If you have questions, please visit the Medicaid website at www.medicaid.alabama.gov, or call the Medicaid Fiscal Agent at 1-800-688-7989.

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