



<b>Department of Origin:</b> Integrated Healthcare Services	<b>Effective Date:</b> 01/05/24
<b>Approved by:</b> Chief Medical Officer	<b>Date Approved:</b> 01/04/24
<b>Clinical Policy Document:</b> Special Coverage for COVID-19 Testing After Expiration of the Public Health Emergency	<b>Replaces Effective Clinical Policy Dated:</b> 10/01/23
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**PURPOSE:**

The intent of this clinical policy is to provide coverage for benefits available related to the COVID-19 testing after expiration of the public health emergency.

**POLICY:**

The public health emergency expired on 5/11/2023.

Aspirus Health Plan continued to waive cost sharing for all individual and group health plans for the following services, when received from participating and non-participating providers, through 12/31/2023.

- Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommended and FDA-approved testing for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 or the diagnosis of the virus that causes COVID-19; and
- The related office, urgent care, emergency room or telehealth visit which resulted in COVID-19 testing, but only to the extent that such visit is related to the evaluation for and administration of COVID-19 testing

**EXCLUSIONS (not limited to):**

Refer to member's Certificate of Coverage or Summary Plan Description

**CODING:**

CPT® or HCPCS

**COVID-19 Testing**

86328 Immunoassay for infectious agent antibody(ies), qualitative or semiquantitative, single step method (eg, reagent strip); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19])

86408 Neutralizing antibody, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2(SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]); screen

86409 Neutralizing antibody, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2(SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]); titer

86413 Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) antibody, quantitative

86769 Antibody; severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19])

87426 Infectious agent antigen detection by immunoassay technique, (eg, enzyme immunoassay [EIA], enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay [ELISA], immunochemiluminometric assay [IMCA]) qualitative or semiquantitative, multiple-step method; severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (eg, SARS-CoV, SARS-CoV-2 [COVID-19])

87428 Infectious agent antigen detection by immunoassay technique, (eg, enzyme immunoassay [EIA], enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay [ELISA], fluorescence immunoassay [FIA],

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immunochemiluminometric assay [IMCA]) qualitative or semiquantitative; severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (eg, SARS-CoV, SARS-CoV-2 [COVID-19]) and influenza virus types A and B

87635 Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique

87636 Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]) and influenza virus types A and B, multiplex amplified probe technique

87637 Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), influenza virus types A and B, and respiratory syncytial virus, multiplex amplified probe technique

87811 Infectious agent antigen detection by immunoassay with direct optical (ie, visual) observation; severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19])

0202U Infectious disease (bacterial or viral respiratory tract infection), pathogen-specific nucleic acid (DNA or RNA), 22 targets including severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), qualitative RT-PCR, nasopharyngeal swab, each pathogen reported as detected or not detected.

0223U Infectious disease (bacterial or viral respiratory tract infection), pathogen-specific nucleic acid (DNA or RNA), 22 targets including severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), qualitative RT-PCR, nasopharyngeal swab, each pathogen reported as detected or not detected

0224U Antibody, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), includes titer(s), when performed

0225U Infectious disease (bacterial or viral respiratory tract infection), pathogen-specific nucleic acid (DNA or RNA), 21 targets including severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), amplified probe technique, including multiplex reverse transcription for RNA targets, each analyte reported as detected or not detected

0240U Infectious disease (viral respiratory tract infection), pathogen-specific RNA, 3 targets (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 [SARS-CoV-2], influenza A, influenza B), upper respiratory specimen, each pathogen reported as detected or not detected

0241U Infections disease (viral respiratory tract infection), pathogen-specific RNA, 4 targets (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 [SARS-CoV-2], influenza A, influenza B, respiratory syncytial virus [RSV]), upper respiratory specimen, each pathogen reported as detected or not detected

0408U Infectious agent antigen detection by bulk acoustic wave biosensor immunoassay, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (coronavirus disease [COVID-19])

C9803 Hospital outpatient clinical visit specimen collection for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (sars-cov-2) (coronavirus disease [covid-19]), any specimen source

D0606 Molecular testing for a public health related pathogen, including coronavirus



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U0001 Novel Coronavirus Real Time RT-PCR Diagnostic Test Panel This code is only to be used for the tests developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

U0002 nCoV Coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2/2019-nCoV (COVID-19), any technique, multiple types or subtypes (includes all targets), non-CDC Reported by laboratories performing non-CDC laboratory tests for SARS-CoV-2/2019-nCoV (COVID-19)

ICD-10 Diagnosis Code Descriptions

- G44.201 Tension-type headache, unspecified, intractable
- G44.209 Tension-type headache, unspecified, not intractable
- G44.211 Episodic tension-type headache, intractable
- G44.219 Episodic tension-type headache, not intractable
- G44.59 Other complicated headache syndrome
- G44.83 Primary cough headache
- G44.84 Primary exertional headache
- G44.85 Primary stabbing headache
- G44.89 Other headache syndrome
- G93.3 Postviral fatigue syndrome
- J00 Acute nasopharyngitis [common cold] (acute rhinitis; acute coryza; infective rhinitis; nasopharyngitis, NOS)
- J02.8 Acute pharyngitis due to other specified organisms
- J02.9 Acute pharyngitis, unspecified (pharyngitis, NOS; sore throat, NOS)
- J06.0 Acute laryngopharyngitis
- J06.9 Acute upper respiratory infection, unspecified
- J12.81 Pneumonia due to SARS-associated coronavirus
- J12.82 Pneumonia due to coronavirus disease
- J12.89 Other viral pneumonia
- J20.8 Acute bronchitis due to other specified organisms
- J22 Unspecified acute lower respiratory infection
- J40 Bronchitis, not specified as acute or chronic
- J80 Acute respiratory distress syndrome
- J96.00 Acute respiratory failure, unspecified whether with hypoxia or hypercapnia
- J96.01 Acute respiratory failure with hypoxia
- J96.02 Acute respiratory failure with hypercapnia
- J98.8 Other specified respiratory disorders
- M35.81 Multisystem inflammatory syndrome
- M35.89 Other specified systemic involvement of connective tissue
- M54.5 Low back pain
- M54.9 Dorsalgia, unspecified (backache, NOS; back pain, NOS)



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- M62.81 Muscle weakness (generalized)
- M62.838 Other muscle spasm
- M79.10 Myalgia, unspecified site (myofascial pain syndrome)
- M79.11 Myalgia of mastication muscle
- M79.12 Myalgia of auxiliary muscles, head and neck
- M79.18 Myalgia, other site
- M79.89 Other specified soft tissue disorders (polyalgia)
- M79.9 Soft tissue disorder, unspecified
- P35.8 Other congenital viral diseases
- R05 Cough
- R06.02 Shortness of breath
- R06.09 Other forms of dyspnea
- R06.1 Stridor
- R06.2 Wheezing
- R06.3 Periodic breathing
- R06.4 Hyperventilation
- R06.82 Tachypnea, not elsewhere classified
- R06.89 Other abnormalities of breathing
- R06.9 Unspecified abnormalities of breathing
- R07.0 Pain in throat
- R07.89 Other chest pain
- R09.2 Respiratory arrest
- R09.81 Nasal congestion
- R09.82 Postnasal drip
- R10.10 Upper abdominal pain, unspecified
- R10.11 Right upper quadrant pain
- R10.12 Left upper quadrant pain
- R10.13 Epigastric pain
- R10.30 Lower abdominal pain, unspecified
- R10.31 Right lower quadrant pain
- R10.32 Left lower quadrant pain
- R10.33 Periumbilical pain
- R10.84 Generalized abdominal pain
- R10.9 Unspecified abdominal pain
- R11.0 Nausea
- R11.10 Vomiting, unspecified
- R11.11 Vomiting without nausea

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R11.12	Projectile vomiting
R11.2	Nausea with vomiting, unspecified
R19.7	Diarrhea, unspecified
R19.8	Other specified symptoms and signs involving the digestive system and abdomen
R23.0	Flushing, excessive blushing
R25.2	Cramp and spasm
R43.0	Anosmia
R43.1	Parosmia
R43.2	Parageusia
R43.8	Other disturbances of smell and taste (mixed disturbance of smell and taste)
R43.9	Unspecified disturbances of smell and taste
R50.9	Fever, unspecified
R51	Headache (facial pain NOS)
R52	Pain, unspecified (acute or generalized pain, NOS)
R53.1	Weakness
R53.81	Other malaise (malaise, NOS; debility NOS; general physical deterioration)
R53.83	Other fatigue (fatigue, NOS; lack of energy; lethargy; tiredness)
R61	Generalized hyperhidrosis, excessive sweating, night sweats, secondary hyperhidrosis
R68.83	Chills (without fever)
U07.1	Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere
U099	Post-COVID-19 condition, unspecified
Z03.818	Encounter for observation for suspected exposure to other biological agents ruled out
Z11.52	Encounter for screening for COVID-19
Z11.59	Encounter for screening for other viral diseases
Z20.822	Contact with and (suspected) exposure to COVID-19
Z20.828	Contact with and (suspected) exposure to other viral communicable diseases
Z86.16	Personal history of COVID-19
Z86.19	Personal history of other infectious and parasitic diseases

#### General ICD-10-CM Coding Guidelines

- If the provider documents “suspected”, “possible” or “probable” COVID-19, do not assign code U07.1; assign a code(s) explaining the reason for encounter (such as fever, or Z20.828)
- Note: Diagnosis code B34.2, Coronavirus infection, unspecified, would in generally not be appropriate for the COVID-19, because the cases have universally been respiratory in nature, so the site would not be “unspecified”



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The following coding guidance has been developed by CDC and approved by the four organizations that make up the Cooperating Parties: the National Center for Health Statistics, the American Health Information Management Association, the American Hospital Association, and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

J82.89 plus U07.1 = pneumonia confirmed due to COVID-19

J20.8 plus U07.1 = acute bronchitis confirmed due to COVID-19

J22 plus U07.1 = COVID-19 documented as being associated with a lower respiratory infection, not otherwise specified (NOS), or an acute respiratory infection, NOS

J98.8 plus U07.1 = COVID-19 documented as being associated with a respiratory infection, NOS

J80 plus U07.1 = ARDS (acute respiratory distress syndrome) due to COVID-19

Z03.818 = concern about a possible exposure to COVID-19, but this ruled out after evaluation

Z20.828 = actual exposure to someone who is confirmed to have COVID-19

Acute respiratory failure

For acute respiratory failure due to COVID-19, assign code U07.1, and code J96.0-, Acute respiratory failure.

Z01.84 Encounter for antibody response examination

Encounter for antibody testing

For an encounter for antibody testing that is not being performed to confirm a current COVID-19 infection, nor is a follow-up test after resolution of COVID-19, assign Z01.84, Encounter for antibody response examination.

Z09 Encounter for follow-up examination after completed treatment for conditions other than malignant neoplasm

Follow-up visits after COVID-19 infection has resolved

For individuals who previously had COVID-19 and are being seen for follow-up evaluation, and COVID-19 test results are negative, assign codes Z09, Encounter for follow-up examination after completed treatment for conditions other than malignant neoplasm, and Z86.19, Personal history of other infectious and parasitic diseases.

Z38.00- Z38.8 Liveborn infants according to place of birth and type of delivery

COVID-19 Infection in Newborn

For a newborn that tests positive for COVID-19, assign code U07.1, COVID-19, and the appropriate codes for associated manifestation(s) in neonates/newborns in the absence of documentation indicating a specific type of transmission. When coding the birth episode in a newborn record, the appropriate code from category Z38, Liveborn infants according to place of birth and type of delivery, should be assigned as the principal diagnosis.

For a newborn that tests positive for COVID-19 and the provider documents the condition was contracted in utero or during the birth process, assign codes P35.8, Other congenital viral diseases, and U07.1, COVID-19.



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