Medicaid Testing Eligibility Group

New Hampshire Medicaid has opted to cover testing and testing related services for uninsured residents of New Hampshire through the Medicaid program. This authority was provided by the Families First Coronavirus Relief Act (FFCRA) but requires that an uninsured patient apply and qualify. This Medicaid eligibility group does not cover treatment or medication for COVID-19 and does not cover any other services other than the COVID-19 testing services.

Below are the initial FAQ's about this new Medicaid eligibility group. Please note that further guidance from CMS is still forthcoming and these FAQ's will be updated as information becomes available.

June 16, 2020: Frequently Asked Questions

1) Who is eligible for the new Medicaid Testing Group?

Individuals who either do not have insurance or are enrolled in a limited benefit Medicaid eligibility group (i.e. individuals eligible for family planning and related services or individuals eligible as “medically needy with spenddown”) may be eligible for coverage. There is no income or resource test for this group. In addition to being uninsured or in a limited benefit Medicaid eligibility group, an individual must also be a NH resident, a US citizen or have qualifying immigration status and provide a social security number (SSN).

2) What services are covered under the new Medicaid Testing Group?

Covered testing services include telehealth or in-person screening for the COVID-19 test, chest x-rays for the purpose of diagnosing COVID, specimen collection and testing, and antibody testing. This Medicaid eligibility group does not cover treatment or medication for COVID-19 and does not cover any other services other than the COVID-19 testing services.

3) How can an individual apply for the Medicaid Testing Group?

Individuals can fill out a simple, streamlined Medicaid application for this testing group directly filled out and processed electronically in NH EASY: https://nheasy.nh.gov/#/ and clicking on the “COVID-19 TESTING” button at the bottom of the page. Applications can also be e-mailed or mailed to individuals who choose not to or are unable to apply electronically by calling (603) 271-7373 or by e-mailing the request for application at BFA.800UI@dhhs.nh.gov. Please be aware that this number is only for
questions related to the Medicaid application for testing coverage; it is NOT for questions about test scheduling or for test results.

4) What is the time period for the Medicaid Testing Group covers?

Coverage for this program is as of March 18, 2020 and will end the day the Public Health Emergency ends. The end date is TBD as of this time. Coverage is determined based on the application date. Eligibility begins:

- 3/18/2020 for applications submitted prior to 6/17/2020 or
- 90 days before the application date for applications submitted on or after 6/17/2020

5) How does the Medicaid Testing Group relate to the HRSA COVID-19 Claims Reimbursement Program?

The HRSA program provides reimbursement directly to providers for COVID testing and treatment of the uninsured. Individuals enrolled in the Medicaid Testing Group are considered to have insurance coverage for COVID 19 testing, but uninsured for treatment. Therefore; providers may be reimbursed for COVID-19 treatment services provided to otherwise uninsured individuals enrolled in the COVID-testing group

HRSA, via its claims contractor, United Health Care (UHC), will perform third party clearances with states’ MMIS to ensure proper coordination of benefits for Medicaid beneficiaries. Because entry of beneficiaries enrolled in the COVID testing group into the MMIS may be delayed in some states, UHC will perform third party clearances at the initial receipt of a claim from providers and conduct periodic retrospective reviews.

If a HRSA payment has been made for an individual that has insurance coverage, payment will be recouped from the provider and the provider will need to bill the appropriate insurance. This includes Medicaid coverage for this new group.

Please note that this FAQ will be updated as CMS issues further guidance. NH DHHS will provide additional guidance as available.