

Just-in-time
Benefits news

Important COVID-19 Coverage Updates

COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing

During these difficult times, one thing should be easier: getting tested for COVID-19. As of January 15, you can get COVID-19 tests for free at your local pharmacy.

How to get free at-home COVID-19 tests

You can use your Express Scripts® pharmacy benefit to obtain up to eight (8) tests per month for a \$0 copay.

Here's how:

- 1) Visit a [participating pharmacy](#) and select a COVID-19 at-home test.
- 2) Bring your test to the **pharmacy** counter (not the general check-out register) and present your prescription benefit card to the pharmacist. The pharmacist will process the test for a \$0 copay.

Submitting a manual claim *(Pharmacy receipt required)*

If the COVID-19 Test does not process for \$0 copay at the pharmacy (and you have not used your allotment of eight tests per month) do not worry. You can submit a manual claim for reimbursement for COVID-19 at-home tests purchased at a participating pharmacy after Jan. 15, 2022.

To submit a manual claim, please visit our website [Express Scripts COVID-19 Resource Center](#). You will need to complete the manual claims form and submit it along with a pharmacy receipt to receive reimbursement.

Note – There is no change to BMO testing requirements within our additional health and safety protocol, this update is independent from that program.

FDA Authorizes Oral Antiviral Treatment for COVID-19

In late December 2021, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) issued an emergency use authorization for Pfizer's Paxlovid™ and Merck's *molnupiravir* for the treatment of mild-to-moderate coronavirus disease (COVID-19) for certain patients who are at high risk for progression to severe COVID-19, including hospitalization or death. **These treatments are available by prescription only**, and the FDA recommends initiating them as soon as possible after diagnosis of COVID-19 and within five days of symptom onset. The ingredient costs for these medications will be covered by the Federal government while funding is provided. These medications will be covered at 100% during the emergency period. If you receive a prescription, you can fill it at a [participating pharmacy](#). Please call your pharmacy to ensure they have availability before you arrive.

COVID-19 Vaccinations Are Available

COVID-19 vaccines reduce the risk of getting and spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. They also help prevent children and adults from getting seriously ill even if they do get COVID-19 and can help protect them from serious short and long-term complications. COVID-19 vaccines have undergone and will continue to undergo the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history.

To learn more about the vaccine and find resources by state, visit the [Express Scripts COVID-19 Resource Center](#).