

Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) COVID-19 Test Pricing

January 25, 2021

On March 5 and February 13, 2020, CMS announced new Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes for healthcare providers and laboratories to use to bill Medicare for SARS-CoV2 tests. Starting in April 2020, laboratories performing SARS-CoV2/2019-nCoV (COVID-19) tests developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) could bill Medicare and other health insurers for services that occurred after February 4, 2020 using the newly created HCPCS code U0001, and laboratories performing non-CDC laboratory tests for SARS-CoV-2/2019-nCoV (COVID-19) could bill for them using HCPCS code U0002. Additionally, the American Medical Association (AMA) created CPT code 87635 for infectious agent detection by nucleic acid tests on March 13, 2020, as well as CPT codes 86769 and 86328 for serology tests on April 10, 2020. Laboratories performing these tests may bill Medicare for services that occurred after the codes' respective effective dates.

Local Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) are responsible for developing the payment amount for claims they receive for newly created HCPCS codes in their respective jurisdictions until Medicare establishes national payment rates. The MAC-developed payment amounts are identified below. Since the last update to this table on May 19, 2020, a number of additional CPT codes have been created to describe types of COVID-19 laboratory testing.

As with other laboratory tests, there is generally no beneficiary cost sharing for COVID-19 laboratory tests under Medicare.

Note: Rates for HCPCS codes U0003, U0004, and U0005 established in [CMS Ruling 2020-1-R](#) and [CMS Ruling 2020-1-R2](#) do not appear in the table below.

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CPT Code	Short Descriptor	JE	JF	JJ	JM	JH	JL	JN	J15	J6	JK	J5	J8
U0001	2019-Ncov Diagnostic P	\$35.91	\$35.91	\$35.91	\$35.91	\$35.92	\$35.92	\$35.92	\$35.92	\$35.91	\$35.91	\$35.92	\$35.92
U0002	Covid-19 Lab Test Non-CDC	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31
87635	SarsCov2 Covid19 Amp Prb	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31	\$51.31
87636	SarsCov2 & Inf A&B Amp Prb	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63
87637	SarsCov2 & Inf A&B&RSV Amp Prb	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63
0240U	Nfct DS Vir Resp RNA 3 Trgt	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63
0241U	Nfct DS Vir Resp RNA 4 Trgt	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63	\$142.63
87426	SarsCov Coronavirus AG IA	\$35.33	\$35.33	\$35.33	\$35.33	\$45.23	\$45.23	\$45.23	\$35.33	\$35.33	\$35.33	\$35.33	\$35.33
87428	SarsCov & Inf Vir A&B AG IA	\$63.59	\$63.59	\$63.59	\$63.59	\$73.49	\$73.49	\$73.49	\$63.59	\$63.59	\$63.59	\$63.59	\$63.59
87811	SarsCov2 Covid19 W/Optic	\$41.38	\$41.38	\$41.38	\$41.38	\$41.38	\$41.38	\$41.38	\$41.38	\$41.38	\$41.38	\$41.38	\$41.38
86328	Ia Nfct A&B SarsCov2 Covid19	\$45.23	\$45.23	\$45.23	\$45.23	\$45.23	\$45.23	\$45.23	\$45.23	\$45.23	\$45.23	\$45.23	\$45.23
86408	Neutrlzg Antb SarsCov2 Scr	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13
86409	Neutrlzg Antb SarsCov2 Titer	\$79.61	\$79.61	\$79.61	\$79.61	\$105.33	\$105.33	\$105.33	\$79.61	\$105.33	\$105.33	\$79.61	\$79.61
86413	SarsCov2 Antb Quantative	\$51.43	\$51.43	\$51.43	\$51.43	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$51.43	\$51.43	\$51.43	\$51.43	\$51.43
86769	SarsCov2 Covid19 Antibody	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13
0224U	Antibody SarsCov2 Titer(s)	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13	\$42.13
0226U	Svnt SarsCov2 Elisa Plsm Srm	\$42.28	\$42.28	\$42.28	\$42.28	\$42.28	\$42.28	\$42.28	\$42.48	\$42.28	\$42.28	\$42.28	\$42.28

Key

Jurisdiction	MAC	MAC States
J5	Wisconsin Physicians Service Government Health Administrators	Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska
J6	National Government Services, Inc.	Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin
J8	Wisconsin Physicians Service Government Health Administrators	Indiana, Michigan
J15	Wyoming CGS Administrators, LLC	Kentucky, Ohio
JE	Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC	California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands
JF	Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC	Alaska, Arizona, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming
JH	Novitas Solutions, Inc.	Arkansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi
JJ	Palmetto GBA, LLC	Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee
JK	National Government Services, Inc.	Connecticut, New York, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont
JL	Novitas Solutions, Inc.	Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania
JM	Palmetto GBA, LLC	North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia
JN	First Coast Service Options, Inc.	Florida, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands

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