TEMPORARY COVID-19 TESTING SITES: ASSURING LABORATORY QUALITY & SAFETY

BE MINDFUL WHEN VISITING COVID-19 TESTING SITES. Fraudsters are attempting to obtain your personal and medical information, including your Medicare number. The personal information collected can be used to fraudulently bill federal health care programs and commit medical identity theft. Visit hhs.gov/coronavirus/testing/index.html for a list of available testing sites.

WHEN VISITING A TESTING SITE, be observant and make sure testing personnel are wearing appropriate protective equipment (i.e., gloves, masks).

IF THIS IS A RAPID TEST, results of the test must be evaluated within the timeframe stated in the manufacturer’s instructions. You can ask the testing personnel how long it will take to read the test results.

PATIENT TEST RESULTS NEED TO BE DOCUMENTED AND REPORTED. Ask the testing personnel how your results will be documented and reported.

CONSUMERS CAN FILE COMPLAINTS if they are concerned about the quality of testing. Information is available here: CLIA Complaint Brochure. Any laboratory complaints can be directed to the appropriate State Agency.

BENEFICIARIES SHOULD BE CAUTIOUS of unsolicited requests for their personal, medical, and financial information. Medicare will not call beneficiaries to offer COVID-19 testing, related products, services, or benefit review. If you receive a suspicious call, hang up immediately.

DO NOT RESPOND TO OR OPEN LINKS in text messages about COVID-19 testing sites from unknown individuals.

BE AWARE OF INDIVIDUALS PRETENDING TO BE COVID-19 CONTACT TRACERS. Legitimate contact tracers will never ask for your Medicare or financial information, or offer to schedule your COVID-19 test.

IF YOU SUSPECT COVID-19 HEALTH CARE FRAUD, report it immediately to 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)