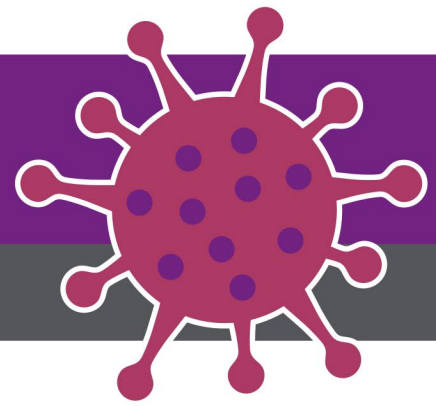


# CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

## Physician Guidance for Counseling Patients to Self-Isolate



**Audience:** Revenue Integrity, Patient Financial Services, MGPS, HIM, Integrity & Compliance Officers

**Revision Date:**

**Version:** Version #1

We appreciate your support as we work Together to ensure the safety of our patients, and community at large.

On July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced that payment is available to physicians and health care providers who counsel patients, at the time of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID 19) testing, about the importance of self-isolation after they are tested and prior to the onset of symptoms.

Provider counseling to patients, will include:

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/counseling-checklist.pdf>

### Counseling Check List

- ☐ Discuss the need for immediate isolation, even before results of the test are available.
- ☐ Advise patients to inform their immediate household/contacts that they may **wish to be tested** and quarantine as well. Review locations and people they have been in contact with in the past two weeks.
- ☐ Review the **signs and symptoms** of COVID-19.
- ☐ Inform patients that if positive, they will likely be contacted by a public health worker and asked to provide a list of the people they've been with for contact tracing, encourage them to 'answer the call'.
- ☐ Discuss services that might help the patient successfully isolate and quarantine at home.

Assign CPT evaluation and management (E/M) codes, based on time, to reimburse providers who are eligible to bill on a CMS1500 claim form for counseling services, regardless of where a test is administered, including doctor's offices, urgent care clinics, hospitals and community drive-thru or pharmacy testing sites. Document the counseling requirements (as detailed above) and time spent with the patient.

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/p0730-cms-cdc-provider-reimbursement-available-covid-19.html>