

Summary of Material Modifications to the City of Columbus – Healthcare Plan

This Summary of Material Modification ("SMM") is notification of language that is modified in the Summary Plan Description ("SPD") for the City of Columbus – Healthcare Plan (the "Plan") that describes the Plan's Post Public Health Emergency process for covered services, vaccines, testing and treatment related to COVID-19 as of May 12, 2023.

In the event of any discrepancy between this SMM and the SPD, the provisions of the SPD will govern.

Modification(s)

Important changes to the COVID-19 covered services, vaccines, testing and treatment provisions under the Plan that will go into effect on May 12, 2023. The Plan modification summary shall be amended as follows:

Post-Public Health Emergency (COVID-19) Services, Vaccines, Testing and Treatment

Overview

The City of Columbus – Healthcare Plan (the "Plan") during the pandemic initiated plan services, vaccines, testing and treatment at zero dollar cost to members to remove barriers to coverage and to assist in stopping the spread of COVID-19. The Plan continues with the responsibility of carefully administering claims for health care covered services and treatment. In accordance with the federal government's confirmed date of May 11, 2023, as the end of the Public Health Emergency (PHE), the Plan will resume pre COVID-19 services, vaccines, testing and treatment for medical and pharmacy benefits.

The Plan's standard approach for COVID-19 coverage on and after May 12, 2023, will accomplish the following goals:

- Support return to normal plan benefits in a timely and consistent manner
- Align with commonly acceptable coverage for similar services
- Reduces variability in COVID-19 related services and provider and member confusion
- Supports timely payment for providers

What's changing?

Beginning May 12, 2023, The City's Plan for COVID-19 covered services, vaccines, testing and treatment will be as follows:

- **COVID-19 vaccines** - Includes the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) adopted COVID-19 vaccine and booster serum and administration as part of preventive benefits at zero-dollar cost share, when in-network (out-of-network is subject to cost share, deductible and/or copayment).
- **Over-the-Counter (OTC) tests** - No medical or pharmacy coverage of OTC COVID-19 tests for dates of service starting May 12, 2023 unless mandated by state regulatory requirements. Members may use their account plans, such as Health Savings Accounts (HSA) or a Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) to purchase OTC tests.
- **Surveillance testing** - No coverage of in- or out-of-network surveillance testing.
- **COVID-19 lab-based testing** - Coverage of Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") approved or authorized COVID-19 lab tests ordered by a physician or health care provider (e.g., pharmacist, nurse, or doctor) in accordance with the Plan's medical benefit.
- **COVID-19 treatment** - Coverage for FDA approved or authorized COVID-19 treatments, including Paxlovid and Molnupiravir (Lagevrio), in accordance with the Plan's medical and pharmacy benefits.
- **Telehealth** - Coverage for telehealth visits in accordance with the Plan's medical benefit for in- and out-of-network (subject to cost share, deductible and/or copayment). Includes medical and behavioral telehealth services.
- **Virtual Visits** Coverage for virtual visits in accordance with the Plan's medical benefit, including medical and behavioral virtual visit services.

If you have any questions or concerns related to the Summary of Material Modification of your Summary Plan Description (SPD), please review the Additional Coverage Details section of your SPD at [Columbus.gov/HR/Employee Benefits/Medical SPD](https://Columbus.gov/HR/Employee%20Benefits/Medical%20SPD). You can also contact the Employee Benefits and Wellness Team at 614-645-8624, Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, or send us an email at EmployeeBenefitsAndWellness@Columbus.gov.

Thank You,

Employee Benefits and Wellness Team