

**Billing Update: CPT Code Update for High-Throughput COVID Testing**

Date: May 7, 2020

Dear Regional Pathology Services Clients,

Effective April 14, 2020, CMS has issued two new HCPCS codes to replace the current HCPCS and CPT codes for COVID-19 testing and a higher reimbursement for laboratories using high throughput technology.

Our Roche Cobas instrumentation for test code COV19 is considered a high-throughput instrument. The COV19 test can be performed on the Roche Cobas instrument (high-throughput) or in the molecular laboratory (Non high-throughput) as a back-up if needed. Clients will see this on their invoice as COV19B if it is the high-throughput test and NECOVB if not, with the corresponding CPT code.

**Below are the changes:**

High-Throughput COV19B CPT code is changing from 87635 to U0003 (commercial payors) and U0002 to U0004 (Medicare).

The NECOVB will continue to be reported with 87635 (commercial payors) and U0002 (Medicare).

Regional Pathology Services has made those changes with an effective date of May 6, 2020. All client and insurance fees will remain the same.

If you have any questions please contact Peggy Slagle, manager, Coding and Compliance.

Office: 402-559-7283

Email: [pslagle@unmc.edu](mailto:pslagle@unmc.edu)

**Please note that this information changes frequently. We will inform clients of updates as they become available.**

**If you have any questions or issues with these changes, please contact client services at 402-559-6420 and ask to speak with one of the client coordinators.**

---