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SUMMARY- January 20, 2022

NO-COST OVER-THE-COUNTER COVID 19 TESTS

The Southern California IBEW-NECA Health Trust Fund medical benefit providers have made the following commitments on how they will respond to the United States Government's requirements for the new **No-Cost Over-the-Counter COVID-19 Test** Mandate effective January 15, 2022.

Anthem:

- Anthem (fully-insured) PPO members can currently go to the Sydney Health app, www.anthem.com, or call Anthem Customer Service to request an OTC COVID-19 test kit(s). Also, should a member purchase OTC COVID-19 test kits on or after 1/15/22, they may submit a reimbursement form to cover the approved cost (reimbursement form is available on the Anthem website).
- Limit 8 tests per member/per month up to a cost of \$12/test. For example, a family of 4 could get 32 tests/month until the end of the public health emergency.
- Consistent with the Federal government CDC guidance, Anthem will utilize existing member claims submission procedures to provide benefits without cost share for OTC COVID-19 tests that members purchase, either online or through other retailers. In addition to the member demographic information that is normally filed with member submitted claims, the members will be required to certify that the test was purchased for personal use and not for employment purposes.

Kaiser Permanente:

- Working to make tests available to participants through multiple outlets.
- Kaiser Permanente will now reimburse its participants for FDA-Approved rapid antigen home tests (reimbursement form is available on the Kaiser website).
- Tests purchased prior to 1/15/2022 are not eligible for reimbursement under the new federal guidance.
- Like other health care organizations, Kaiser has a limited supply of tests. Kaiser is working to get tests and make them available to Health Trust Fund members through a number of outlets, including mail-order.

UnitedHealthcare:

- The revised guidance will apply through the end of the public health emergency.
- Coverage will begin for home tests without a Doctor's order needed for claims submitted with dates of purchase on or after Jan. 15, 2022.
- Members do not need an order from a health care provider or clinical assessment to purchase a home test, but tests must still be primarily for individualized diagnosis or treatment of COVID-19.
- Tests are limited to eight tests per 30 days for each member in a subscriber's plan. In applying the quantity limit of eight tests, plans and insurers may count each test separately, even if multiple tests are in one package. So, if a member orders a two-pack, then 4 test kits will equal 8 tests.
- UnitedHealthcare has a claims submission process setup and members can submit claims through myuhc.com.
- UnitedHealthcare call center agents have been trained and will be prepared to answer member questions.
- Rite-Aide has over-the-counter at-home COVID-19 tests available at no cost. They simply need to present their member id card.

Government Sponsored FREE COVID-19 At-Home Tests:

You can order free, at-home COVID-19 tests from the US Government at [COVIDTests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov). Four tests per household will be sent by mail to your address. You can also order by phone at 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489), from 8 AM to midnight ET. Multiple languages are accommodated.

PLEASE NOTE

Participants are advised to look for updates on their enrolled provider's websites or contact their provider by calling the following numbers:

Anthem Pharmacy Member Services (www.anthem.com/ca) **833 261-2460**

Kaiser Permanente (www.kp.org) **833 574-2273** (follow the prompts to reach pharmacy inquiries)

UnitedHealthcare (www.uhcwest.com) **800 624-8822**