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## Pharmacy Testing for COVID-19

Dear MHA Members:

Last Thursday, CMS released a second interim final rule with comment period (IFC) entitled "Medicare and Medicaid Programs, Basic Health Program, and Exchanges; Additional Policy and Regulatory Revisions in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency and Delay of Certain Reporting Requirements for the Skilled Nursing Facility Quality Reporting Program." [Click here](#) to download the full document.

While this IFC covers a wide array of topics, it does speak to the role of the pharmacist administered serological and antibody testing for COVID-19. Specifically:

- Medicare will cover FDA authorized tests ordered by a healthcare professional as a diagnostic laboratory test which may be done alongside influenza and respiratory syncytial virus tests.
- Pharmacies wishing to participate in this program will need to be enrolled in Medicare as a Laboratory in Medicare Part B and be in line with state laws and scope of practice requirements.
- Billing will happen under the Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule (CLFS) [Read the document.](#)

In order to qualify the pharmacy must:

- Complete the CLIA Certificate of Waiver to be a Laboratory. [Read the document.](#)
- Be able to bill Medicare Part B
- For Pharmacies not enrolled in Medicare Part B and do not have a PTAN number complete an 855B form and designate themselves as a "pharmacy" [Read the document.](#)

Please do not hesitate to contact your account representative with questions.

Thank you,

The MHA Legislative Affairs Team

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