Addressing the COVID-19 Crisis: An Open Forum Webinar Series for Pharmacists

August 6, 2020

Michael D. Hogue, PharmD, FAPhA, FNAP
Dean and Professor
Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy
President, APhA

Host and Moderator

Today's Focus:

Discuss how pharmacists can mitigate the impact on patients and other pharmacy staff members in the event they test positive for COVID-19.

Roger Paganelli, RPh

Owner & Supervising Pharmacist

Mt. Carmel Pharmacy

Guest Speaker

Alicia Kerry Mica
Senior Lobbyist
American Pharmacists Association

Guest Speaker

Daniel Zlott, PharmD, BCOP
Vice President
Professional Education Resources
American Pharmacists Association

Subject Matter Expert: Q&A

Ilisa BG Bernstein, PharmD, JD, FAPhA
Senior Vice President, Pharmacy Practice and Government Affairs
American Pharmacists Association

Subject Matter Expert: Q&A

Format for Today's Webinar

1:00 pm: Introductions

1:05 pm: Provider Status Update with Alicia Kerry Mica

1:10 pm: Discussion with Roger Paganelli, RPh

1:30 pm: Open Forum: A Minute for Your Thoughts

1:55 pm: Wrap Up: Review of APhA's Ongoing Activities and What's Coming

Open Forum Ground Rules

- Use the **Questions** field on the GoToWebinar toolbar to submit comments and questions related to the topic discussion
- Individuals whose submissions are selected will be asked by the moderator to state the comment or question for the audience. The line for the individual will be unmuted to read their comment or question.
- To maximize the number of questions/comments addressed, **a 60-second time limit** will be in effect for everyone to state their question or comment.
- We will try to get to as many comments and questions as possible. We have created a new forum for COVID-19 discussions where further discussion post-webinar. Information on participating in this forum will be provided at the end of the open forum.

What's the status of pharmacist provider status?

Advocating for You

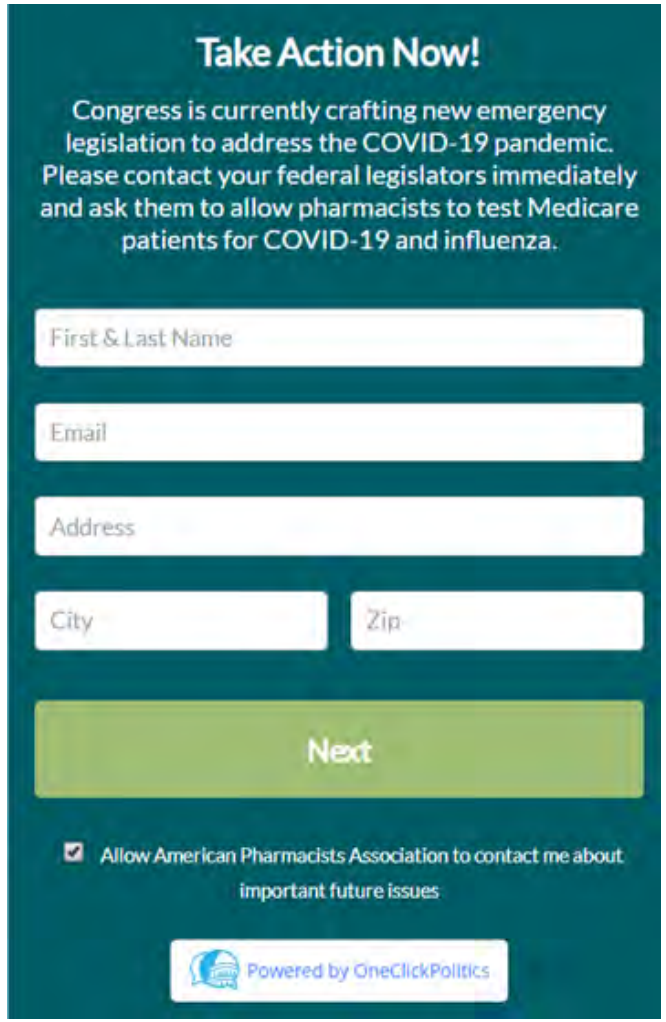
Non-pharmacy organizations urge Congress to support pharmacist provider status under Medicare Part B for COVID and flu testing and immunization

Alliance for Aging Research
American Association of Heart Failure Nurses
Association of Black Cardiologists
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
BallengeRx Consulting
Global Liver Institute
HealthHIV
International Cancer Advocacy Network
Lupus and Allied Diseases Association
Mended Hearts
Mended Little Hearts
Men's Health Network
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Consumers League
National Forum for Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention
National Lipid Association
National Rural Health Association
Partnership to Improve Patient Care
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association
RetireSafe
Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine
Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association
WomenHeart

Take Action Now!

It's Game Time! Tell Congress Pharmacists Can Help Fight COVID-19 and Influenza!

- Your immediate participation will help spur conversation within Congress about the need for pharmacists' provider status during the public health emergency.
- We need ALL of our representatives to advocate to Congressional leadership in both parties to ensure this receives the attention it – and our patients – deserve so it is included in the next legislative package!



To take action now, go to: https://actioncenter.pharmacist.com/campaign/coronavirus/

To learn about how you can call your representatives, contact Mary-Ryan Douglass at mrdouglass@aphanet.org

Discussion with Roger Paganelli

Discuss how pharmacists can mitigate the impact on patients and other pharmacy staff members in the event they test positive for COVID-19.

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SAVE A LIFE GET NARCAN
STOP HIV TODAY
TEXT
718-364-6100
ASK OUR PHARMACIST
PREP FOR PRE EXPOSURE
STOP HIV TODAY
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PHARMACY
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IMMUNIZATIONS
MONEY ORDERS
BILL PAYMENTS
eWIC & OTC CARDS ACCEPTED
WE DELIVER 364-6100
E-WIC

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PRESCR

EXIT

Polling Question

Have you or anyone on your pharmacy staff been diagnosed with COVID-19?

A. Yes
B. No

Open Forum Discussion: A Minute for Your Thoughts *Comments, Questions, Feedback*

Review of APhA's Ongoing Activities and What's Coming

NEW EPISODES - APhA's 15 on COVID-19 Series

- **Dexamethasone Data in COVID-19 –** Review the data to learn about the benefits and risks of dexamethasone in patients with COVID-19.
  http://elearning.pharmacist.com/products/6167/15-on-covid-19-07-31-2020-dexamethasone

- **mRNA Vaccines for COVID-19 –** An overview of how mRNA vaccines work and a review of early data on whether mRNA vaccines are effective:
  http://elearning.pharmacist.com/products/6160/15-on-covid-19-07-24-2020-mrna-vaccines

https://www.pharmacist.com/coronavirus/training

APhA COVID-19 Resources: Know the Facts

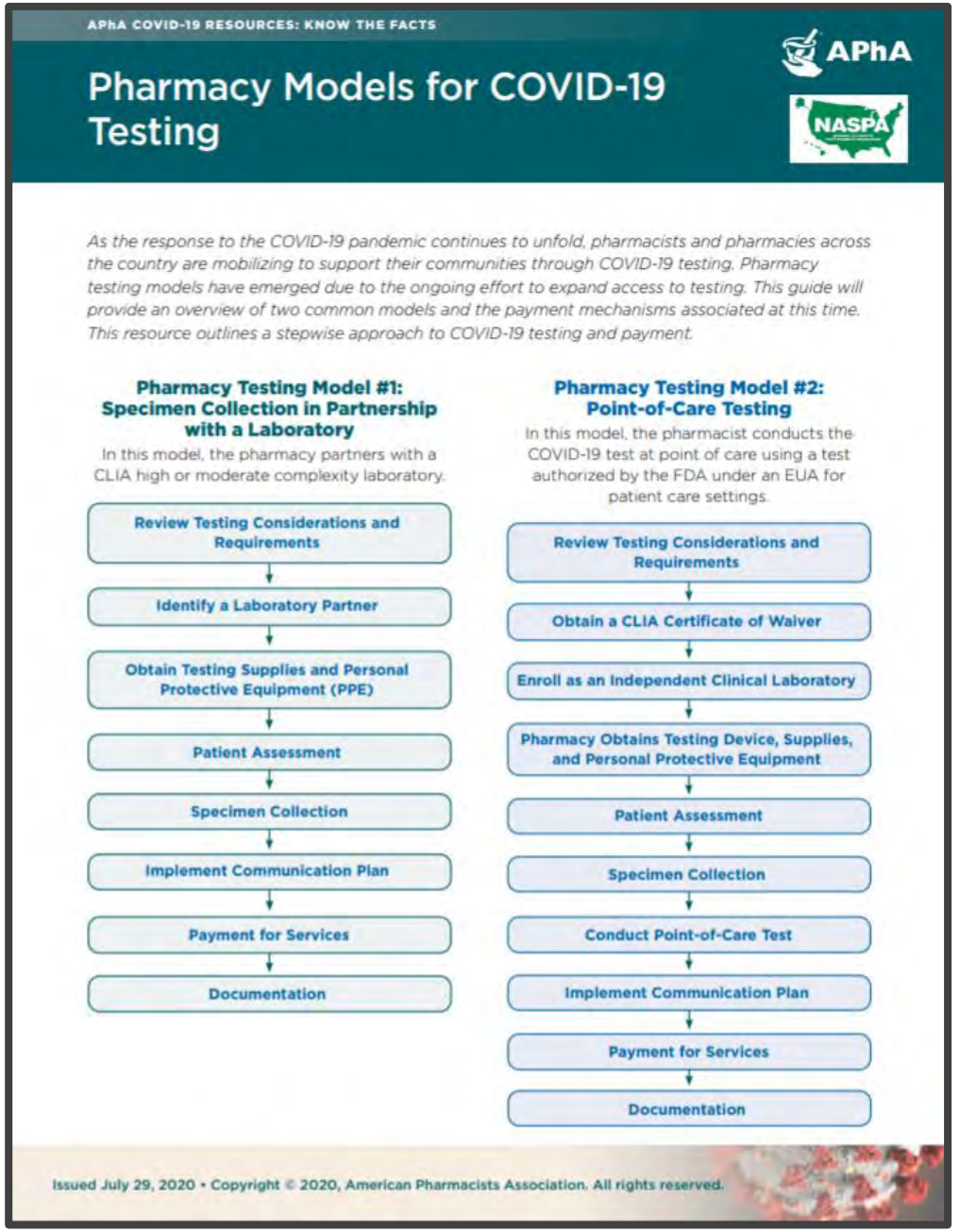
Practical Information for Pharmacists to Know Now

NEW RESOURCE – Pharmacy Models for COVID-19 Testing

A step-by-step overview of two emerging pharmacy COVID-19 testing models and the associated payment opportunities at this time. Pharmacists interested in providing COVID-19 testing should know the requirements and considerations to get started.

Check out additional practice resources here

APhA NASPA NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF STATE PHARMACY ASSOCIATIONS


APhA COVID-19 RESOURCES: KNOW THE FACTS

Pharmacy Models for COVID-19 Testing

APhA NASPA

As the response to the COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold, pharmacists and pharmacies across the country are mobilizing to support their communities through COVID-19 testing. Pharmacy testing models have emerged due to the ongoing effort to expand access to testing. This guide will provide an overview of two common models and the payment mechanisms associated at this time. This resource outlines a stepwise approach to COVID-19 testing and payment.

Pharmacy Testing Model #1: Specimen Collection in Partnership with a Laboratory

In this model, the pharmacy partners with a CLIA high or moderate complexity laboratory.

- Review Testing Considerations and Requirements
- Identify a Laboratory Partner
- Obtain Testing Supplies and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Patient Assessment
- Specimen Collection
- Implement Communication Plan
- Payment for Services
- Documentation

Pharmacy Testing Model #2: Point-of-Care Testing

In this model, the pharmacist conducts the COVID-19 test at point of care using a test authorized by the FDA under an EUA for patient care settings.

- Review Testing Considerations and Requirements
- Obtain a CLIA Certificate of Waiver
- Enroll as an Independent Clinical Laboratory
- Pharmacy Obtains Testing Device, Supplies, and Personal Protective Equipment
- Patient Assessment
- Specimen Collection
- Conduct Point-of-Care Test
- Implement Communication Plan
- Payment for Services
- Documentation

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Advocating for You

ECONOMY NATIONAL SECURITY BUDGET IMMIGRATION CORONAVIRUS.GOV

EXECUTIVE ORDERS

Executive Order on Improving Rural Health and Telehealth Access

HEALTHCARE | Issued on: August 3, 2020

★ ★ ★

SHARE:

ALL NEWS

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows:

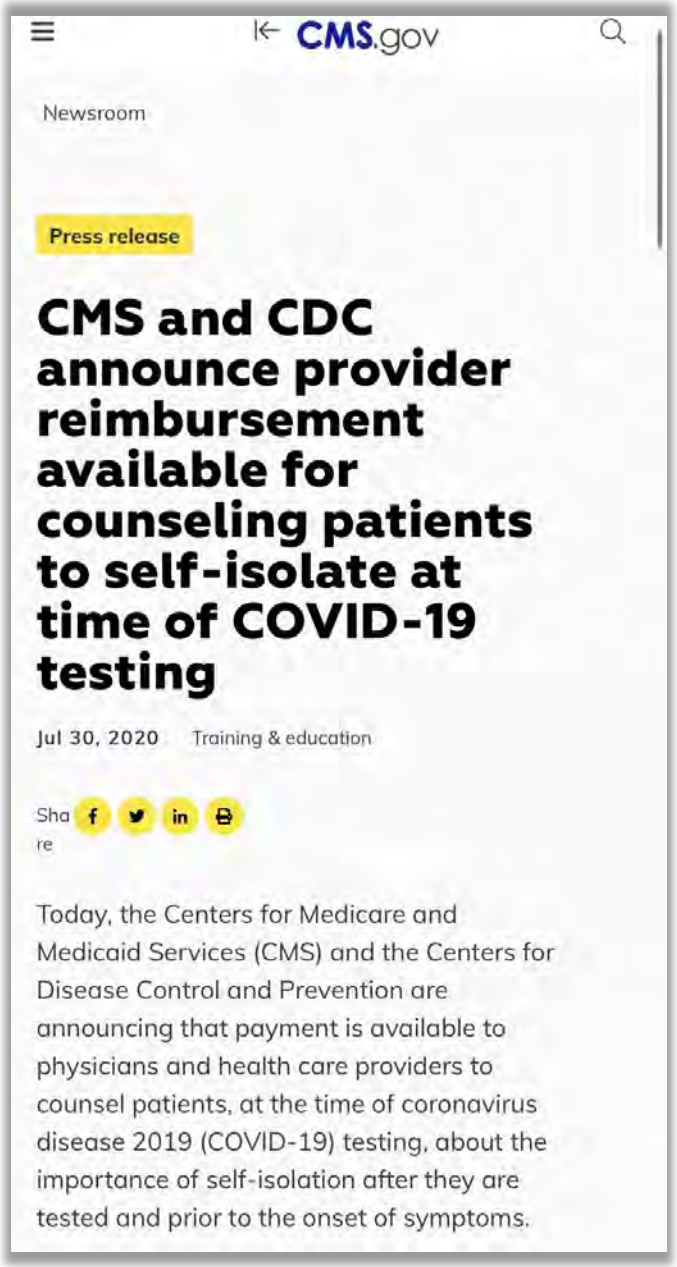
Section 1. Purpose. My Administration is committed to improving the health of all Americans by improving access to better care, including for the approximately 57 million Americans living in rural communities. Americans living in rural communities face unique challenges when seeking healthcare services, such as limited transportation opportunities, shortages of healthcare workers, and an

Advocating for You

- CMS will use existing evaluation and management (E/M) payment codes to reimburse “eligible providers” for COVID-19 counseling services ***(pharmacists need an incident to arrangement with physicians)*** no matter where a test is administered, including doctors' offices, urgent care clinics, hospitals and community drive-thru or pharmacy testing sites.
- APhA continues advocacy efforts for a legislative solution to allow pharmacists to independently offer these services.

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.



CMS.gov

Newsroom

Press release

CMS and CDC announce provider reimbursement available for counseling patients to self-isolate at time of COVID-19 testing

Jul 30, 2020 Training & education

Sha re

Today, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are announcing that payment is available to physicians and health care providers to 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.

Advocating for You

CMS issues CY2021 Physician Fee Schedule Proposed Rule – Medication Management Services and Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM)

- Restates pharmacist medication management services are covered under both Medicare Part B and Part D.
- Pharmacists are considered “auxiliary personnel” and can provide these services as well as remote patient monitoring (RPM) under the appropriate level of supervision under Part B if payment for the services is not made under the Medicare Part D benefit.
- Clinical services shall be in accordance with the pharmacist’s state scope of practice and applicable law.
- Does not alter current payment policy for pharmacist services furnished “incident to” the professional services of a physician - ***Still does not confirm that physicians can bill for utilizing pharmacists for more complex evaluation and management (E/M) services (99212-99215).***

CMS.gov Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

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Fact sheet

Proposed Policy, Payment, and Quality Provisions Changes to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule for Calendar Year 2021

Aug 03, 2020 | Billing & payments, Physicians

Share

On August, 3 2020, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a proposed rule that announces and solicits public comments on proposed policy changes for Medicare payments under the Physician Fee Schedule (PFS), and other Medicare Part B issues, on or after January 1, 2021.

The calendar year (CY) 2021 PFS proposed rule is one of several proposed rules that reflect a broader Administration-wide strategy to create a healthcare system that results in better accessibility, quality, affordability, empowerment, and innovation.

Advocating for You

CMS issues CY2021 Physician Fee Schedule Proposed Rule—Telehealth and Immunization Administration

- Restates pharmacists can enter into an “incident-to” physician services arrangement to provide evaluation and management (E/M) services to be provided via telehealth.
- CMS permits physician supervision to be provided virtually using real-time audio and video technology.
- CMS is re-instating increased immunization (vaccine) administration rates for providers (including pharmacists) to 2017 levels to gear up for the upcoming flu season and COVID-19 vaccine when available.

CMS.gov Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

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Post on ENGAGE

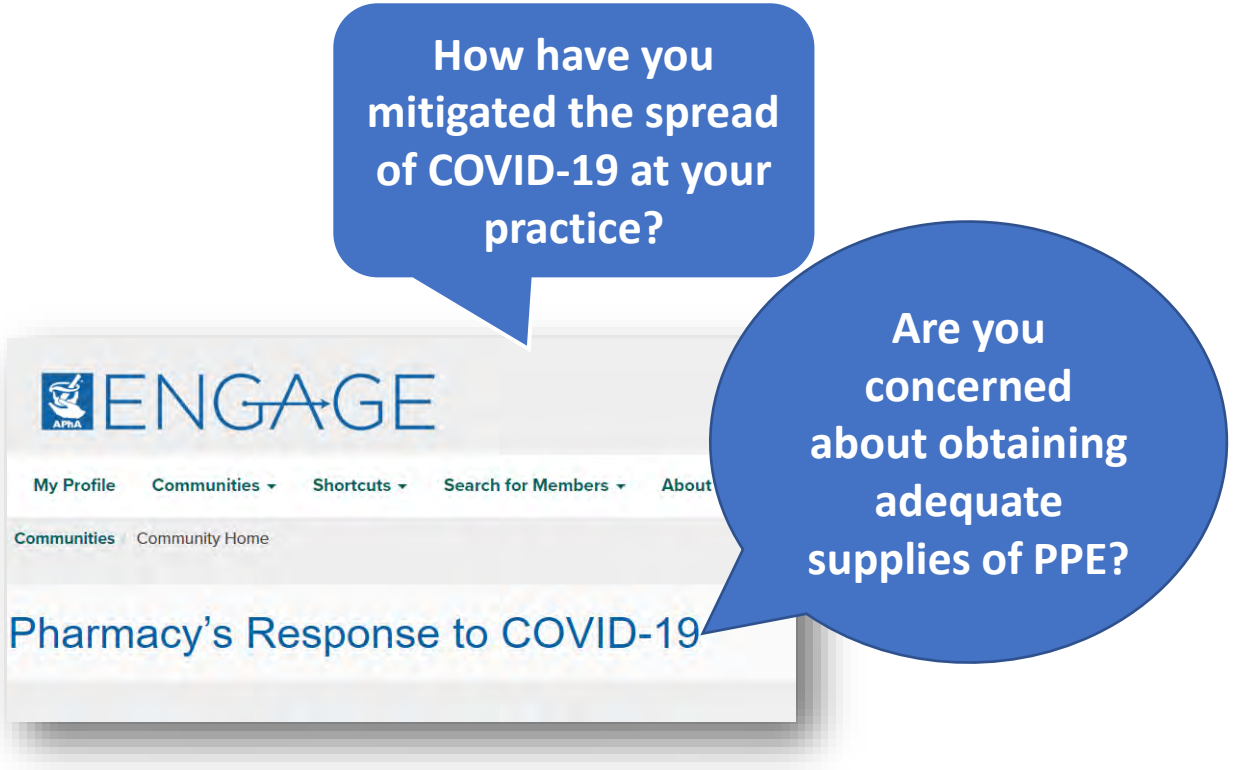
Pharmacy's Response to COVID-19

POST your questions

SHARE your lessons learned

SUPPORT your colleagues

ACCESS the latest information



Join Us

Same Day, Same Time, Same Place

- Weekly webinar will be on **Thursday, August 13th, from 1-2pm ET**
- Today's webinar recording and slides will be available within 24hrs

Weekly Open Forum Webinars

Addressing the COVID-19 Crisis: An Open Forum Webinar Series for Pharmacists are weekly webinars conducted every Thursday from 1:00 pm–2:00 pm ET. Each open forum webinar is moderated by APhA President Michael Hogue.

Register for the APhA Weekly Open Forum Webinar (August 6)
The pharmacist has COVID-19: Now what? Hear from pharmacists who survived COVID-19 and get the latest updates on provider status for COVID-19.

APhA Weekly Open Forum Webinar: Patients with Chronic Conditions (July 30)
Learn strategies to engage patients with chronic conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic. (Video - Slides)

APhA Weekly Open Forum Webinar: Patients with Chronic Pain; Substance Use Disorder (July 23)
Hear how COVID-19 has impacted patients with chronic pain and substance use disorder. (Video - Slides)

https://www.pharmacist.com/coronavirus/weekly-webinars