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To: Oregon Health Plan providers

From: Nathan Roberts, Traditional Programs manager
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Subject: Temporary expansion of CAWEM-only (CWM) coverage during the COVID-19 emergency

Effective immediately, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has expanded the Citizen-Alien Waived Emergency Medical (CAWEM) emergency benefit to include all services for the diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19.

- **This coverage is not limited to emergency rooms and hospitals.** OHA can reimburse providers for COVID-19-related services regardless of service setting. Coverage includes non-emergency settings such as medical offices and urgent care
- Providers can bill OHA for COVID-19-related services provided on or after **Feb. 1, 2020**.

Please note: Eligibility for Cover All Kids (CAK) for people turning 19 years of age is not expanding during the COVID-19 emergency. People losing eligibility for CAK may be eligible for CAWEM and, if eligible for CAWEM, will be covered for COVID-19 testing and treatment. However, individuals receiving CAWEM Plus (CWX) benefits on March 18, 2020, or determined eligible for CAWEM Plus benefits during the COVID-19 emergency declaration period, will maintain that level of coverage until the emergency period ends.

Why is this happening?

As permitted by Sections 4 and 5 of Oregon Administrative Rule [410-120-0011](#) (Effect of COVID-19 Emergency Authorities), OHA is making this change to help ensure that CAWEM recipients are able to access appropriate treatment during the COVID-19 emergency.

What should you do?

Allow CAWEM recipients to receive COVID-19-related services in settings other than the emergency room. To ensure appropriate payment, please use the following codes on all claims related to COVID-19:

- Professional claims: Enter modifier CR (Catastrophe/Disaster)
- Institutional claims: Enter Condition code DR (Disaster-Related)

To learn more about submitting or adjusting fee-for-service claims to OHA, visit the [Oregon Health Plan Billing page](#).

Questions?

For questions about billing OHA, contact the Provider Services Unit at dmap.providerservices@dhsaha.state.or.us or call 800-336-6016 (Option 5).

Thank you for your continued support during these challenging times and for the services you provide to CAWEM members.