



TO

Blood Banks, Hospital Providers, Independent Labs, Nurse Practitioners, Nurses in Independent Practice, Physician Assistants, Physician Clinics, Physicians, Rural Health Clinics, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

REGARDING

COVID-19 Unwinding: Medicaid-Enrolled Provider Requirement for Prescribing, Referring, or Ordering Certain COVID-19-Related Laboratory Codes

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During the federal COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE), the federal government allowed the Wisconsin Department of Health Services to implement temporary changes to some policies to facilitate the protection of member health. ForwardHealth Alert [021](#), "Medicaid-Enrolled Provider Requirement Temporarily Waived for Prescribing, Referring, or Ordering Certain COVID-19-Related Laboratory Codes," outlined temporary exceptions to the requirement for certain COVID-19-related laboratory codes to be prescribed, referred, or ordered by a Medicaid-enrolled provider.

The federal government has announced that the COVID-19 PHE will end on May 11, 2023. **As of May 12, 2023, the Medicaid-enrolled provider requirement for prescribing, referring, or ordering certain COVID-19-related laboratory codes goes back into effect.** For more information, refer to the Claims for Services Prescribed, Referred, or Ordered topic ([#15737](#)) of the ForwardHealth Online Handbook.

COVID-19 Unwinding Resources

For more information regarding COVID-19 Unwinding, refer to the following resources:

- ForwardHealth Update [2023-14](#), "Important Information Regarding the End of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency"
- The [COVID-19: ForwardHealth News and Resources](#) page of the ForwardHealth Portal (will include all Unwinding provider communications)
- The [COVID-19 Unwinding Resources for Providers](#) page of the Portal (provider resources for assisting members through Unwinding)