



TO: City of Boston Health Insurance Covered Members  
SUBJECT: COVID Rapid Testing through Health Plan Announcement

<b><i>Purpose</i></b>	On Monday, January 10, the federal government issued guidance that insurance carriers and plan sponsors (such as the City of Boston) will be required to cover the cost of up to 8 at-home/over-the-counter rapid test kits for COVID-19 each month, in response to the widespread impact of the Omicron variant.
<b><i>Policy</i></b>	In accordance with the Federal Government mandate effective January 15, 2022, the City of Boston will cover the cost of up to 8 FDA-authorized at-home/over-the-counter rapid test kits for COVID-19 per member per month.
<b><i>Covered Members</i></b>	<p>This policy applies to all those covered under the City of Boston’s non-Medicare supplement health insurance plans.</p> <p>For those covered under a City of Boston Medicare supplement plan, the test kits are covered by Medicare and members should show their Medicare ID card at the pharmacy counter during check out.</p>
<b><i>Cost to Members</i></b>	<p>Members will be able to obtain OTC test kits at no cost from preferred pharmacy providers as indicated by their respective health plan.</p> <p>Members may obtain tests kits at participating pharmacies by showing their insurance card at the pharmacy counter during check-out.</p> <p>If a member obtains test kits from a non-network pharmacy, they may pay out of pocket and submit for reimbursement. Please see further instructions for this process on the health plan websites.</p>
<b><i>Effective Date</i></b>	This policy went into effect January 15, 2022 and will remain in effect until further notice.
<b><i>Health Plan Contact Info</i></b>	<p><b>AllWays Health Partners</b> Phone: 866-567-9175 Website: <a href="#">COVID-19 member resources   Mass General Brigham Health Plan</a></p>

	<p><b>Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts</b>  <b>Phone:</b> 888-714-0189  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.bluecrossma.org/myblue/at-home-covid-test-coverage#covidotcfag">https://www.bluecrossma.org/myblue/at-home-covid-test-coverage#covidotcfag</a></p> <p><b>Harvard Pilgrim Health Care</b>  <b>Phone:</b> 888-333-4742  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.harvardpilgrim.org/myoptions/coronavirus-your-guide-to-care">www.harvardpilgrim.org/myoptions/coronavirus-your-guide-to-care</a></p> <p><b>Tufts Health Plan</b>  <b>Phone:</b> 800-701-9000  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://tuftshealthplan.com/covid-19/home">https://tuftshealthplan.com/covid-19/home</a></p>
<p><b><i>Additional Resources</i></b></p>	<p>The Federal Government is allowing individuals to order up to four at-home tests per residential address, to be delivered by the U.S. Postal Service by visiting <a href="http://www.covidtests.gov">www.covidtests.gov</a></p> <p>If you would like to find a location to schedule a free PCR or lab-performed COVID test, please visit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.mass.gov/info-details/find-a-covid-19-test">www.mass.gov/info-details/find-a-covid-19-test</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://www.boston.gov/health-and-human-services/covid-19-health-and-testing-information">www.boston.gov/health-and-human-services/covid-19-health-and-testing-information</a></li> </ul> <p>The state government is also working to distribute over 2 million self-tests in over 100 communities that the pandemic has particularly impacted. For further information on the availability of these free tests, please go to <a href="http://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-self-test-distribution">www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-self-test-distribution</a></p> <p>For information on free tests distributed to community health centers by the federal government, you may go to <a href="http://www.hrsa.gov/coronavirus/testing-supplies">www.hrsa.gov/coronavirus/testing-supplies</a></p>

If you have any further questions or concerns, contact your health plan or the City of Boston Health Benefits & Insurance office at [hbi@boston.gov](mailto:hbi@boston.gov) or 617-635-4570.