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Statement by Lora Pellegrini, President and CEO of the Massachusetts Association of Health Plans, on Coverage of COVID-19 Testing *January 15, 2022*

"MAHP member health plans understand that testing is an important tool to help identify COVID infections and limit the spread of the virus. Our health plans are working as quickly as possible to implement the requirements to reimburse their members for over-the-counter COVID-19 tests, in ways that limit consumer confusion and that are consistent with state and federal guidance.

New state and federal guidance require that health plans in Massachusetts provide coverage for at-home COVID-19 tests purchased during the COVID-19 public health emergency without copayments. Insured members can receive reimbursement for up to 8 tests each month, beginning January 15. Health plans may pay for these tests up front at network pharmacies or reimburse members upon submission of a claim.

Consumers should review their health plan websites for information about testing and, if they have questions, should contact their health plan's consumer help lines to identify the best ways to access the required at-home tests.

Since the early days of the pandemic, MAHP health plans have demonstrated a commitment to working with their members to help curb the spread of the virus, including coverage of the costs of testing to diagnose and treat COVID and access to vaccines. Our health plans are committed to continuing to support their members throughout the duration of this public health emergency."

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