

Helpful information for participants enrolled in Medicare Part B

Coverage of Over-the-Counter (OTC) COVID-19 Diagnostic Tests (4/4/2022)

Effective April 4, 2022, Medicare will cover up to 8 (eight) Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved, authorized, or cleared over-the-counter COVID-19 tests at no cost for each individual enrolled in Medicare Part B (thus applicable to Medicare Primary Option –MPO– members). Tests should be obtained from participating pharmacies and health care providers.

National pharmacy chains are participating in this initiative, including: Albertsons Companies, Inc., Costco Pharmacy, CVS, Food Lion, Giant Food, The Giant Company, Hannaford Pharmacies, H-E-B Pharmacy, Hy-Vee Pharmacy, Kroger Family of Pharmacies, Rite Aid Corp., Shop & Stop, Walgreens and Walmart. A list of all eligible pharmacies and other health care providers that have committed publicly to participate in this initiative can be found [here](#).

Coverage for these tests will be available for the remainder of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE).

Medicare Part B (Medical Insurance) will cover these tests if you have Part B. Although this benefit is not provided through your MPO plan option, by showing your red, white, and blue Medicare card you can get your free over-the-counter COVID-19 tests.

Each person with Medicare Part B can get up to 8 free over-the-counter tests for the month of April any time before April 30, and can then get another set of 8 free over-the-counter tests for each calendar month that follows until the end of the COVID-19 PHE.

You won't have to pay as long as you go to an eligible pharmacy or health care provider that participates in this initiative. However, if you get more than the 8 covered over-the-counter COVID-19 tests in any calendar month, you will be responsible for the costs of the additional tests that calendar month. The above coverage is in addition to the two sets of four free at-home COVID-19 tests Americans can continue to order from [covidtests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov).

For more information, please visit [Medicare & Coronavirus](#)