**Message from BCBS: COVID-19**

BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York is committed to helping prevent the spread and impact of the COVID-19 in our community. As part of this commitment, we are taking the following immediate measures in the interest of the health and safety of our members, you and your employees:

* **$0 cost share / waived deductible for Doctor on Demand telemedicine visits on all Fully Insured Commercial, ASO, and Medicare Advantage plans (HSA included)**
  + We strongly recommend that our members first use telehealth or telemedicine to connect with a doctor when possible
* **$0 cost share / waived deductible for COVID-19 diagnostic tests on all Fully Insured Commercial, ASO, and Medicare Advantage plans (HSA included)** 
  + We will pay for the test for members that meet the CDC guidelines for testing. All tests require a referring physician’s order
  + We will not require prior authorizations for COVID-19 testing
* **$0 cost share / waived deductible for all participating physician office, urgent care and emergency room visits for diagnostic testing related to COVID-19 - not the ongoing treatment - on all Fully Insured Commercial, ASO, and Medicare Advantage plans (HSA included)**
* **We encourage members to use their mail order benefit to obtain a 90-day supply of current prescriptions** 
  + Members with 25% of their current prescription remaining should refill or renew their medication at retail pharmacies, consistent with CDC’s recommendation

The following is a message from Dr. Thomas Schenk, Senior Vice President, Chief Medical Officer, BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York, explaining why we are taking these measures:

“We all have a shared responsibility to keep our community healthy, and we want our employer groups and our members to know that we’re here for them. Our focus now is on slowing the spread of this illness and making sure that if a person does become seriously ill, they are able to access the care that they need in a timely way.”

Timely information and updates on our continued response to COVID-19 can be found at [bcbswny.com](http://www.bcbswny.com/).