

August 14, 2023



**Re: ~~Medical coverage policy update – Frequency limitation for~~
respiratory pathogen panel testing effective November 12, 2023**

We routinely review our coverage, reimbursement, and administrative policies for potential updates. In that review, we take into consideration one or more of the following: Evidence-based medicine (EBM), professional society recommendations, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance, industry standards, and our other existing policies.

As a result of a recent review, we will deny respiratory pathogen panel testing as not medically necessary when administered at a frequency greater than either 12 in a 12-month rolling timeframe or one per day. Denials will affect the claim line only and include medical necessity appeal rights.

This update is effective for dates of service on or after November 12, 2023. We will update the Nucleic Acid Pathogen Testing (0530) medical coverage policy to reflect this change.

Additional information

For more information about our policy updates, visit the Cigna for Health Care Professionals website (CignaforHCP.com) > Resources > Coverage Policies > Policy Updates.

If you are not a registered user, please register so that you may log in and access all of our coverage, reimbursement, and administrative policies. Go to CignaforHCP.com and click Register. If you do not have Internet access or would like additional information, call Cigna Healthcare Customer Service at **800.88Cigna (882.4462)**.

Thank you for the care you provide to our customers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JB Kessel MD".

Julie B. Kessel, MD
Medical Officer for Coverage Policy
Clinical Performance & Quality Organization

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At a glance

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- This update is effective for dates of service on or after November 12, 2023.
- For additional information, call Cigna Healthcare Customer Service at **800.88Cigna (882.4462)**.