

## Take-home rapid antigen test kits update

### KEY MESSAGES

- Beginning March 7, 2022, pharmacy teams will no longer be able to submit a \$5 claim or document in their systems for each take-home rapid antigen test kit they provide to Albertans.
- Alberta Health will remunerate pharmacies \$60 per case of test kits received on or after March 7, 2022.
- Test kits will continue to be provided to Albertans at no charge.
- Pharmacy teams are encouraged to limit distribution of test kits to two per person (one for themselves and one for one other person).

### UPDATE: CHANGES TO BILLING FOR TAKE-HOME RAPID ANTIGEN TEST KITS

As of Monday, March 7, 2022, pharmacy teams will no longer be able to submit individual \$5 claims to Alberta Blue Cross for each take-home rapid antigen test kit they provide to an Albertan.

Rather, a pharmacy will be eligible to submit a singular batch claim in the amount of \$60 per case of test kits on the day they arrive in store, as compensation for distributing those kits. The \$60 claim per case is intended to provide reimbursement to the pharmacy as well as cover the wholesale distributor costs, which will now be directly billed to your pharmacy for each case of kits ordered after March 7.

Pharmacy teams are no longer obligated to obtain a PHN from an individual requesting a test kit, nor will there be a need to validate when the last test kit was obtained in Netcare. **Test kits will continue to be provided at no cost to Albertans until further notice.**

Albertans will still be asked to restrict themselves to picking up a test kit no more than once every 14 days and no more than two test kits at a time, one for themselves and one for another person. Pharmacy teams are encouraged to limit distribution of kits to two per person at a time.

### CLAIM INFORMATION

Pharmacies can submit a claim for \$60 per case to Alberta Blue Cross for each case of test kits they order and receive from their primary pharmacy wholesale distributor (McKesson, Imperial, Kohl & Frisch or Matrix SDM) on or after March 7, 2022.

The pharmacy wholesale distributor will provide each case of test kits at no cost; however, shipping and distribution charges will apply and will be the responsibility of the pharmacy to pay. Further information regarding the ordering process along with shipping and distribution charges will be provided by the distributor to your pharmacy.

Please note that during this transitional period, any inventory of test kits received prior to March 7 will not be eligible for the \$60 batch claim; however, they can still be claimed at the individual \$5 per test kit fee.

As of March 7, any test kits received prior to March 7 that have not been distributed and claimed at the \$5 per test kit claim fee, will no longer be able to be submitted. However, pharmacy teams can still distribute this remaining stock after March 7 to Albertans at no cost.

*continued next page*

# PHARMACY BENEFACT

---

*continued from previous page*

## DATA ELEMENTS FOR DIRECT BILL CLAIMING

- Carrier code: 16;
- Group number: 23464, section 000;
- Pharmacy license number;
- Pharmacist license number;
- Client number: pseudo-PHN CV00000000;
- Client's full name: use "Rapid" for first name and "Test" for last name;
- Client's date of birth; use any combination of numbers that satisfy the format YYYYMMDD;
- Client's gender: use F or M;
- Relationship code: enter zero (0) if needed;
- Prescriber ID number: pharmacist license number;
- Prescriber reference code: 86;
- Quantity: 1 (only one case may be claimed at a time);
- Service date: date case is received;
- Drug cost: \$0.00;
- Dispensing fee: \$60.00 per case;
- PIN: 00071130; and
- Special Service Code (SSC): L.

Effective Monday, March 7, 2022, claims submitted for a \$5 fee will no longer pay for take-home rapid antigen test kit claimed under PIN 00071128, SSC: L.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Albertans will be able to visit [alberta.ca/CovidRapidTests](https://alberta.ca/CovidRapidTests) online to find a location currently offering take-home rapid antigen testing kits.

**Pharmacy teams are reminded to go into the Alberta Blue Cross pharmacy provider website to update their site status regularly to reflect the actual on-hand inventory for test kits.**

---

For assistance with benefit or claim inquiries, please contact an Alberta Blue Cross Pharmacy Services Provider Relations contact centre representative at

780-498-8370 (Edmonton and area)

403-294-4041 (Calgary and area)

1-800-361-9632 (toll free)

FAX 780-498-8406 (Edmonton and area)

FAX 1-877-305-9911 (toll free)

Alberta Blue Cross offers online access to current Pharmacy Benefacts and supplemental claiming information to assist with the submission of your direct bill drug claims.

Visit [ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php](https://ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php)

