Pharmacy-based Asymptomatic COVID-19 Testing Program Pilot

Alberta Health announced June 25, 2020 that a pharmacy-based testing program will be introduced to increase testing availability, access and capacity for asymptomatic Albertans. Alberta has one of the highest COVID-19 testing rates in Canada and the world. In the current phase of relaunch, this program will improve Alberta's ability to determine the prevalence of COVID-19 infection and aid the provincial pandemic response.

At this time, the program will be piloted in limited communities with only a few pharmacies in order to finalize logistics and operational implementation. Based on the evaluation of the pilot, more details about how additional pharmacies can participate in the program will be determined.

As a reminder, in March 2020, the Alberta government collaborated with the Alberta Pharmacists' Association (RxA) to implement the Assessment to Screen and/or Test for Infectious Disease (assessment code 0071120, SSC - L) for pharmacists to help Albertans assess and screen for COVID-19 as part of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. This is available to all pharmacies in Alberta and will remain in effect. This may be claimed to a maximum of five claims per pharmacy per day. Pharmacies may refer to Benefact Number 847 issued March 2020 for further details.

When you have questions:

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

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