



# COVID-19 update

## Keeping you prepared

In an ongoing effort to meet the needs of the times, Blue Shield of California is extending cost sharing waivers through September 30, 2020 for the following:

- COVID-19 treatment
- Teladoc virtual medicine

### **Treatment**

On April 1, 2020, Blue Shield announced it will waive co-payments, coinsurance, and deductibles for treatment for COVID-19 received between March 1, 2020 and May 31, 2020. Today, we are extending this waiver through September 30, 2020. This applies to the following plan types:

- Fully insured and flex-funded employer-sponsored plans
- Plans purchased through Blue Shield of California directly
- Plans purchased through Covered California
- Medicare Advantage plans
- Medicare Supplement plans
- Self-insured employer-sponsored plans where the plan sponsor elects to pay for copays, coinsurance, and deductibles for COVID-19 treatment. These plans are not required to cover these costs. Employer groups with questions on this topic should contact their account team.

Medi-Cal members have no out-of-pocket costs for treatments.

Covered services include any treatments for COVID-19 from doctors, hospitals, and other healthcare professionals in a plan's network from March 1 through September 30, 2020. Providers must use proper diagnosis and procedure codes related to COVID-19 for Blue Shield to waive member deductible, copay, and coinsurance liability for treatment.

## **Teladoc**

Copays and co-insurance for Teladoc visits, medical and behavioral health, will be waived for members enrolled in all Blue Shield commercial plans through September 30, 2020, whether or not related to COVID-19.

Members enrolled in Blue Shield's Trio and Tandem plans already enjoy \$0 out-of-pocket costs for Teladoc services.

Self-insured employer-sponsored plans should contact their account team with questions regarding providing this benefit coverage for their members.

*Please note: COVID-19 guidance is evolving rapidly. Our responses are based on existing guidance and are subject to change depending on legal and/or regulatory developments.*

## **Stay up to date**

Blue Shield is closely monitoring the trajectory of the COVID-19 public health emergency, including state and federal policy. We will continue to look for ways to assist members, providers, employers and business partners during this unprecedented time, and we will continue to keep you informed with updates. More information is available on our [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) web page for brokers and employers](#) – which is updated regularly. You can also see the latest updates from Blue Shield on our [News Center](#) or have them emailed to you by [subscribing here](#).

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