



Dear Member

PAYMENT OF COVID-19 PATHOLOGY LABORATORY CLAIMS

As the country continues to navigate the unprecedented complexities that continue to emanate from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government Employees Medical Scheme (GEMS) wants to provide you with assurance of our commitment to fund valid claims for COVID-19 testing in line with Scheme rules.

We are aware of the concerns relating to the payment of claims for COVID-19 testing, and that some laboratories are requesting members to pay for tests upfront.

We have communicated with Pathology Laboratories and requested that our members be serviced and not requested to pay for COVID-19 related testing upfront.

The impact that the spread of this disease has had on members and their families has been carefully considered, and as such, processes and systems have been put in place to ensure that all valid claims are adjudicated correctly.

All claims for both COVID-19 positive and negative tests will be funded and no pre-authorisation is required for persons under investigation (PUI) for COVID-19 infection, provided the correct ICD-10 and RPL codes are billed:

- Positive tests: ICD-10 U07.1 and RPL Code 3979
- Negative tests: ICD-10 U07.2 and RPL Code 3979

Important: Please take a copy of this letter with you should you be referred to a pathology laboratory.

We trust that you find this in order and would like to assure you of our continued commitment to providing you with equitable access to affordable and comprehensive healthcare during this time.

If you have any queries, please contact us on 0860 00 4367 or send an email to enquiries@gems.gov.za.

Sincerely

Government Employees Medical Scheme (GEMS)