



# ALEXANDRIA HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## Communicable Disease Divisor

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## **HEALTH UPDATE 19 – New COVID-19 Counseling Reimbursement - August 3, 2020**

Dear Partners in Health,

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) jointly launched a new initiative and announced that reimbursement is now available for healthcare providers counseling patients on isolation and quarantine when testing for COVID-19 and while awaiting results. Counseling can help slow the spread of the virus and keep families and communities safe. CDC and CMS developed resources for you, as well as your patients:

- **[Health care provider Q&A about reimbursement for counseling](https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-provider-counseling-qa.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC_1052-DM34417)**
  - [https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-provider-counseling-qa.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC\\_1052-DM34417](https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-provider-counseling-qa.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC_1052-DM34417)
- **[Provider-patient counseling talking points](https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-provider-patient-counseling-talking-points.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC_1052-DM34417)**
  - [https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-provider-patient-counseling-talking-points.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC\\_1052-DM34417](https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-provider-patient-counseling-talking-points.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC_1052-DM34417)
- **[Provider counseling checklist](https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-provider-patient-counseling-checklist.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC_1052-DM34417)**
  - [https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-provider-patient-counseling-checklist.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC\\_1052-DM34417](https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-provider-patient-counseling-checklist.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC_1052-DM34417)
- **[3 Key Steps to Take While Waiting for Your COVID-19 Test Result](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/php/318271-A_FS_KeyStepsWhenWaitingForCOVID-19Results_3.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC_1052-DM34417)** (Patient Handout)
  - [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/php/318271-A\\_FS\\_KeyStepsWhenWaitingForCOVID-19Results\\_3.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC\\_1052-DM34417](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/php/318271-A_FS_KeyStepsWhenWaitingForCOVID-19Results_3.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC_1052-DM34417)
- **[Infographic describing what to expect during contact tracing](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/Contact-Tracing-Infographic-FINAL.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC_1052-DM34417)** (Patient Handout)
  - [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/Contact-Tracing-Infographic-FINAL.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC\\_1052-DM34417](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/Contact-Tracing-Infographic-FINAL.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC_1052-DM34417)

For more information visit [CDC's COVID-19 website](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus) and the [CMS Medicare Fee-For-Service \(FFS\) Response to the Public Health Emergency on the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-provider-patient-counseling-checklist.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC_1052-DM34417)

[https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-provider-patient-counseling-checklist.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC\\_1052-DM34417](https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-provider-patient-counseling-checklist.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC_1052-DM34417)

Thank you for your partnership in the City of Alexandria's response to COVID-19, and thank you for the care you give to our communities.

### For more information on COVID-19:

[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/Health>

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/surveillance-and-investigation/novel-coronavirus/>

Sincerely,

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