



Pharmacy & Other Changes Coming with End to the Public Health Emergency

Changes go into Effect on July 1, 2023

The federal government is officially calling an end to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency effective May 11, 2023. This means VEHI and other Blue Cross Vermont members' benefits will be changing with respect to COVID-19 related services. This email will summarize key changes. Blue Cross Vermont has provided more detail and context in a direct member mailing coming soon to subscriber homes, and this link also offers current information:

www.bluecrossvt.org/health-community/covid-19-updates.

The most impactful of these changes and their cost-share implications for VEHI members, summarized below, will go into effect on July 1, 2023 – not May 11.

COVID Vaccines:

These will continue to be a covered benefit at no cost-share to members.

COVID Tests: Provider Based

Beginning July 1, 2023, provider-based COVID-19 tests will require cost-sharing.

COVID Tests: Over the counter, home-based Antigen tests

At present, under the regulations in force during the Public Health Emergency, members can secure up to 8 of these tests per month at no cost-share. This will continue to be the case up to **June 30, 2023**.

Beginning **July 1, 2023**, however, the cost of purchasing these tests at a local pharmacy or elsewhere will be borne entirely by the member.

COVID Therapeutics (Oral drugs: Paxlovid and Lagevrio)

These medications, which now require prior approval but no cost share, will come beginning July 1 with a cost-share as a non-preferred, brand-name pharmaceutical.

Pharmacy Early Refill

Federal legislation during the pandemic allowed for early refills of medications. Early refills starting July 1 will need to be authorized through normal channels using pre-COVID protocols.

Inpatient and Outpatient Hospital & AmWell Telehealth Care

Cost-sharing for inpatient and outpatient treatments that were waived during the Public Health Emergency will have a cost-share beginning July 1, 2023. The same will be true for AmWell's 24/7 telemedicine services.

You can learn more about any changes to coverage at www.bluecrossvt.org/health-community/covid-19-updates.

Employees who have questions about their benefits should contact the **Blue Cross Vermont Customer Service Team, Monday-Friday, from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., at (800) 344-6690.**

As always, please contact [Bobby-Jo Salls](#) or [Mark Hage](#) with any questions.

This email was sent to School Business Officials, Human Resources, Local Union Officials and other Health Plan contacts.

To avoid confusion and to ensure consistency in the delivery of information, when distributing VEHI information do not modify any VEHI communications or attachments.

Please note: For your convenience, all VEHI Communications (sent via Campaign Monitor) can now be found in our archive at vehi.org/home/campaign-monitors/

You're receiving this notification because your school and/or SU are a member of our program.

[Edit your subscription](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

52 Pike Drive
Berlin, VT 05602
(802) 223-5040