

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Coding Updates

HCPCS coding¹

Healthcare providers who need to test patients for Coronavirus using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 2019 Novel Coronavirus Real Time RT-PCR Diagnostic Test Panel may bill for that test using the newly created HCPCS code (**U0001**).

ICD-10 Coding²

Pneumonia

J12.89 Other viral pneumonia (pneumonia confirmed as due to the COVID-19 virus)

B97.29 Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere

Bronchitis

J20.8 Acute bronchitis due to other specified organisms (for confirmed case due to COVID-19), and

B97.29 Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere

J40 Bronchitis not otherwise specified (NOS) due to the COVID-19. Bronchitis, not specified as acute or chronic, and

B97.29 Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere

Lower Respiratory Infection

If COVID-19 is documented as being associated with lower respiratory infection , not otherwise specified, or an acute respiratory infection, please use following:

J22 lower respiratory infection, not otherwise specified (NOS), or an acute respiratory infection, NOS

B97.29 Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere. (Unspecified acute lower respiratory infection)

If the COVID-19 is documented as being associated with a respiratory infection, NOS, please use the following:

J98.8 Other specified respiratory disorders

B97.29 Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere. (Unspecified acute lower respiratory infection)

Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome- codes used concurrently

J80 Acute respiratory distress syndrome

B97.29 Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere. (Unspecified acute lower respiratory infection)

ARDS

Cases with ARDS due to COVID-19 should be assigned the codes J80, Acute respiratory distress syndrome, and B97.29, Other coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified elsewhere

Exposure to COVID-19

For cases where there is a *concern about a possible exposure to COVID-19, but this is ruled out after evaluation*, assign the code **Z03.818**, Encounter for observation for suspected exposure to other biological agents ruled out. For cases where there is an *actual exposure to someone who is confirmed to have COVID-19*, it would be appropriate to assign the code **Z20.828**, Contact with and (suspected) exposure to other viral communicable diseases.

1. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/public-health-news-alert-cms-develops-new-code-coronavirus-lab-test>
2. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/icd/ICD-10-CM-Official-Coding-Guidance-Interim-Advice-coronavirus-feb-20-2020.pdf>