CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019
(COVID-19)

COVID-19 Testing for Screening for Travel

Trinity Health

Audience: Laboratory, Patient Access, MPGS, HIM, Hospital Site Operations, PBS
Revision Date: 02/15/2021
Version: Version # 1
COVID-19 Response Team Owner: Finance
Date of Last Review: 02/15/2021

Health Ministries (HM) may receive requests to provide COVID-19 testing for travel purposes. Each HM will need to determine if they have enough supply of COVID-19 tests to provide this screening. These services would not be covered by insurance as they are not medically necessary. If this service is provided, it would be done on a cash basis with payment made at the time of testing.

Order/Referral/Reason for Testing

Each HM will need to determine if they will require a physician order for this testing that clearly documents the test is for travel screening. If an order is not required, the HM should establish a mechanism to clearly understand when COVID testing is performed for travel screening purposes in order to follow the guidelines below.

Registration

As COVID-19 testing for travel purposes isn't covered by insurance, all patients **must be registered as self-pay** to ensure we are appropriately assigning liability. Patient Access Teams are **expected to collect payments** prior to services being rendered to ensure we are receiving accurate reimbursement up-front. If the patient is unwilling to pay, it is the expectation that our Patient Access Teams don't proceed with scheduling / registering for these services. All patients seeking testing for the sole purpose of travel requirements **must pay up-front** for theses services.

Coding

Because these visits are on a cash basis and registered as self-pay, the accounts will not need to be coded by HIM.

Pricing

If these screening services will be provided, the HM needs to have a self-pay cash price established based on the HM's Financial Assistance Procedure. Please refer to the COVID-19 Self Pay Price Communication for additional requirements: COVID-19 Self-Pay Price Transparency