



Maximizing efficient, high quality COVID-19 screenings

Identifying the most appropriate COVID-19 testing codes, testing sites and type of test to use can be confusing. The guidance below can make it easier for you to refer your patients to high-quality, lower-cost COVID-19 testing sites, find Empire BlueCross BlueShield HealthPlus (Empire)-contracted laboratories and identify the proper CPT® codes to use. Contact your Empire representative for additional information or visit <https://providerpublic.empireblue.com>.

Refer patients to www.empireblue.com/ny to find convenient testing locations

If an Empire member requests a COVID-19 test, you may refer them to Empire to find a testing location near them. Our test-site finder gives members important information about each site, including days and hours of operation, and if they offer

- Appointment or walk-in
- Drive through service
- Rapid test results
- Antibody testing
- Testing for children

Consider Antigen testing as an option when rapid results are needed

Antigen tests can be a quicker way to detect COVID-19 than nucleic acid amplification tests (NAAT), (for example, PCR). Antigen tests offer a reasonable and lower cost alternative when screening asymptomatic or low-risk patients and may be most useful for individuals within the first five to seven days of symptoms when virus replication is at its highest.

Send swab tests to Empire-contracted laboratories

When providing COVID-19 molecular testing services to our members, consider utilizing the following additional in-network, high-quality labs to assist in helping to ensure that our members are receiving high-value healthcare.

In-network lab	Telephone	Website
Invitae Corporation	650-466-7242	https://www.invitae.com/en/partners

<https://providerpublic.empireblue.com>

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