



## **ALERT: Medicaid Provider Partnership Required to Support COVID-19 Testing Goals**

To continue making progress in our fight against COVID-19, Governor Larry Hogan has established a goal of testing 10 percent of the Maryland population. “Widespread testing is critical to saving lives and safely reopening more and more of our economy, which is why state health officials are setting a goal of testing 10 percent of the population in all of our 24 jurisdictions,” said Governor Hogan.

To achieve this crucial milestone, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) requires the support of Medicaid providers in contacting your patient panels and encouraging them to seek a COVID-19 test. We are encouraging providers to build testing capability in your offices. This will provide for a more sustainable long-term solution to COVID-19, and it allows the provider to be closely involved through both the diagnostic and treatment stages. Here are the CDC guidelines:

- [Infection prevention and control practices, including use of recommended personal protective equipment \(PPE\), for COVID-19 test specimen collection](#)
- [Collecting, handling, and testing clinical specimens from persons for COVID-19](#)

For those who are not ready to provide testing, you may order tests for your members through CRISP: [Overview and instructions](#).

Our [website](#) has additional testing site locations.

As stated in MDH’s Amended Directive and Order Regarding Various Healthcare Matters issued on July 1, 2020, **healthcare providers shall order a COVID-19 test for any individual who believes it necessary, regardless of symptoms.**