

12 June 2020

Dear Healthcare Provider

## **PAYMENT OF COVID-19 PATHOLOGY LABORATORY CLAIMS**

As the country continues to navigate the unprecedented complexities that continue to emanate from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government Employees Medical Scheme (GEMS) would like to thank you for the excellent service that you provide to its members.

GEMS is aware of the concerns relating to the payment of claims for COVID-19 testing, and that some pathology laboratories are requesting members to pay for tests upfront. The Scheme would like provide assurance that it has re-communicated its commitment to pathology laboratories that all valid claims for both COVID-19 positive and negative tests will be funded. No pre-authorisation is required for persons under investigation (PUI) for COVID-19, provided the correct ICD-10 and RPL codes are billed:

- Positive tests: ICD-10 U07.1 and RPL Code 3979
- Negative tests: ICD-10 U07.2 and RPL Code 3979

Testing of asymptomatic members is not considered PMB level of care therefore in such instances, testing will be funded from day to day benefits.

GEMS trusts that you find this in order. If you have any queries, please contact us on 0860 436 777.

GEMS trusts that you will find this in order.

Sincerely,

**GEMS Provider Relations Team**