

Dear Healthcare Provider

COVID-19 PPE FUNDING FOR FAMILY PRACTITIONERS

The Government Employees Medical Scheme (GEMS) has responded to requests from healthcare provider groups to compensate providers for the increase in practice expenses to better comply with COVID-19 prevention guidelines, while protecting patients from infection.

After careful consideration and review, GEMS is pleased to inform you of the following enhancements to assist with additional funding for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). A tariff code has been created for the purpose of funding PPE in respect of COVID-19. This will not only allow the Scheme to build a claims history, but also make it easier to discontinue the code once the pandemic has run its course without undue disruption to claims process. Funding will be subject to day-to-day benefits for all options.

PPE Tariff code and amount:

Tariff code(to be submitted with consultation code)	Description	Value(per consultation)	Effective date	Disciplines
9999753	PPE-Personal Protective Equipment	R15.20	1 April 2020	014/015

All claims for service dates prior to the distribution of this letter (as of 01 April 2020) will be reprocessed as follows:

1. Healthcare Providers are to submit a claim to tariff code 9999753 for all face to face consultations for service dates 01 April 2020 onwards.
2. When submitting a claim kindly ensure that the GEMS membership number, dependent code as well as service date(s) are correct.
3. The Scheme will reprocess all the claims for the past service dates (from 01 April 2020) from 01 July 2020.
4. Future claims for face to face consultations must include tariff code 9999753 in order for PPE to be reimbursed.

The costing of PPE in this setting is based on NAPPI price comparison. The average number of patients treated per day as well as the type of PPE required for non-aerosol generating procedures and aerosol generating procedures were also taken into consideration.

While the effective date is 01 April 2020, the Scheme will retrospectively start processing claims from 01 July 2020.07.06

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

Sincerely

Government Employees Medical Scheme (GEMS)