



Over-the-Counter COVID-19 Test Kit Coverage

Effective January 15, 2022, the Ascend to Wholeness Healthcare Plans (the “Plan”) will cover over-the-counter (“OTC”) COVID-19 tests that are approved, cleared, or authorized by the Food & Drug Administration (“FDA”). OTC tests that can be self-administered and self-read will be covered without a healthcare provider order/prescription during the remainder of the public health emergency.

The Plan will cover up to eight (8) free OTC COVID-19 tests per member per 30-day period without a healthcare provider order/prescription. Please note that some test kits include multiple tests within one box, and you will be covered up to 8 individual tests; for example, four 2-packs are 8 individual tests.

Ways to get an OTC COVID-19 test:

1. **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT:** Starting January 19, 2022 every U.S. household will be able to order four (4) free at-home COVID-19 tests via the Federal government by going to [COVIDtests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov).
2. **MANUAL REIMBURSEMENT THROUGH EXPRESS SCRIPTS (Effective January 15, 2022):**
 - a. Purchase the at-home OTC COVID-19 tests at any pharmacy or retailer, in-person or online (Amazon, Costco, Walmart, Walgreens, etc.)
 - b. Submit the receipt(s) to Express Scripts for reimbursement.
 1. Log into your Express Scripts member portal by going to the Ascend to Wholeness [website](#).
 2. Hover over the ‘Benefit’ tab and select ‘Forms’
 3. Scroll down to the ‘Request reimbursement’ section
 - 4a. If you have a NDC number for your OTC COVID-19 test, start your claim submission by selecting ‘Get Started’
 - 4b. If you have a UPC number for your OTC COVID-19 test, download the ‘claim for reimbursement form’
 - i. Submit the completed form via mail or fax, information is located in the ‘Instructions’ section of the form
 - c. **UPDATE:** Starting January 28, 2022, OTC COVID-19 test kits that were purchased at a non-network pharmacy or retailer will be reimbursed up to \$12 per test. For example, if a kit/box with 2 tests was purchased for \$30 you would be reimbursed \$24; that is, \$12 per test. (Tests purchased between January 15, 2022 and January 27, 2022 will be reimbursed with no cap.)

3. NEW OPTION – DIRECT RETAIL PURCHASE FROM EXPRESS SCRIPTS’ IN-NETWORK PHARMACIES AT NO COST (Effective January 28, 2022):

- a. Find an in-network pharmacy by logging into your Express Scripts member portal via the Ascend to Wholeness [website](#). Once you find a pharmacy, purchase the OTC COVID-19 tests in-person at the **pharmacy counter, which is the only location in the store where automated claim processing can occur.**



- b. Present your health plan ID card and ask the pharmacy to bill the cost of the OTC COVID-19 tests through your Express Scripts benefit. You can get up to 8 tests per member per 30-day period for free with no upfront costs or copay, subject to availability at the in-network pharmacy.

4. NEW OPTION – MAIL ORDER THROUGH EXPRESS SCRIPTS (Effective January 28, 2022):

- a. Get up to 8 tests per member per 30-day period delivered to your house for free via your Express Scripts [member portal](#).
- b. Once you have logged in, click on “Order At-home COVID-19 Tests” under the Quick links section to start the mail order process.

Effective January 28, 2022, the Plan will reimburse OTC COVID-19 tests up to \$12 per test that were purchased via a non-network pharmacy or retailer. OTC COVID-19 tests that were purchased between January 15 and January 27, 2022 will be reimbursed for the full purchase amount.

Please call Express Scripts at (800) 841-5396 if you have additional questions or need assistance regarding OTC COVID-19 tests.

Per the Centers of Disease Prevention and Control (CDC), OTC COVID-19 tests may be used if you have COVID-19 symptoms or have been exposed or potentially exposed to an individual with COVID-19. Responsible use of OTC COVID-19 tests can help to decrease the spread of COVID-19.

NOTE: Over-the-counter (OTC) COVID-19 tests that are used for job-related requirements are NOT covered by the Ascend to Wholeness Healthcare Plans.