



### **Important Update: COVID-19 Coverage Changes**

The Federal Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 will end on May 11, 2023. As a result, many of the coverage requirements mandated by the federal government will end as well.

When the COVID-19 pandemic was declared a public health emergency, there were changes to how health plans covered services related to the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of COVID-19. However, with the emergency declaration ending, the following changes will occur to COVID-19-related coverage on **May 12, 2023**:

- At-home, over-the-counter COVID-19 tests will no longer be covered by your health plan.
- Lab tests for the diagnosis of COVID-19 and pre-surgical testing for COVID-19 will be covered like other lab tests. Depending on your plan, you may have a cost share for the COVID-19 lab test, along with the applicable office visit. If you have a diagnostic COVID-19 test at an urgent care center, your urgent care cost share will apply.

**Please note:** COVID-19 vaccinations and booster shots will continue to be covered in full as a preventive service.

Although the public health emergency declaration is coming to an end, COVID-19 is still a concern, especially for people who have a weakened immune system or chronic illness. We encourage you to keep up with your COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters, as people who have received their vaccines have lower risk of severe illness, hospitalization and death from COVID-19.

For more information about COVID-19 coverage, please visit our website at **[independenthealth.com/coronavirus](https://independenthealth.com/coronavirus)**. If you have any questions, please contact our Customer Service Department at (716) 631-2661 or 1-800-257-2753, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. TTY users can call 711.