



DIRECTIVE 20-EX-10

TO: ALL LICENSED INSURANCE COMPANIES IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA

FROM: JOHN F. KING
INSURANCE AND SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER

DATE: DECEMBER 29, 2020

RE: REIMBURSEMENT FOR COVID-19 TESTING

COVID-19 testing is critical with the recent uptick in cases in Georgia. Delays in obtaining test results can make it more difficult for hospitals and providers to contain this winter's outbreak. Commissioner King is requesting that health plans permit providers to send tests to commercial labs that are out of network. However, Commissioner King is also asking those labs to accept the health plan's in-network reimbursement rate for COVID-19.

Commissioner King is making this request out of a concern that insurers could see excessive charges from the commercial labs doing the testing. Moreover, as many commercial labs are not in-network with health plans in Georgia, the labs could have a difficult time being reimbursed by insurers.

Accordingly, Commissioner King is requesting that all Georgia health plans reimburse labs who are testing for COVID-19 at an in-network rate. Commissioner King also asks that all labs involved in testing for COVID-19 accept reimbursement at an in-network rate and refrain from increasing their charges. While Commissioner King acknowledges he has no direct authority over commercial labs, it is his sincere hope that both parties can agree to this accommodation to remove any barriers to testing during this public health emergency.

JOHN F. KING
INSURANCE AND SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER
STATE OF GEORGIA