



Letter on Payment for CPT Code 99702



Last month, the CPT Editorial Panel approved CPT code 99072 to be used to report the additional supplies, materials, and clinical staff time over and above the practice expense(s) included in an office visit or other non-facility service(s) when performed during a public health emergency (PHE), as defined by law, due to respiratory-transmitted infectious disease.

To help address the significant fiscal pressures placed on physicians by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Medical Association signed on to a letter urging the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP), Blue Cross Blue Shield Association (BCBSA), and major commercial health plans (i.e., Anthem, Aetna, Cigna, Health Care Service Corporation, Humana and UnitedHealthcare) to immediately implement and pay for CPT code 99072.

[See the letter here](#)

AEA Fights Alleged Illegal and Negligent Practices from Health Care Providers



On Thursday, November 5, 2020, the Alabama Education Association (AEA) sent a [letter](#) to the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners (ALBME) demanding they take action against doctors endangering the lives of Alabama's students and school employees. The AEA learned that some doctors and other medical professionals were writing excuses for students to allow them to return to school before their CDC- and ADPH-mandated quarantine periods expired.

ALBME Executive Director, William M. Perkins, released a statement saying:

"The Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners has not yet received any complaints against any physician alleging conduct of the nature described by the AEA. We encourage anyone who has information concerning dangerous or unprofessional conduct by a physician or physician assistant to make a complaint. The Board fully investigates all complaints it receives and each situation must be evaluated on an individualized basis given the facts and circumstances presented."

[Read the story here](#)

Alabama Physicians Remind You of Three Ways to Stop the Spread of COVID-19

The Medical Association has partnered with the American Medical Association to remind Alabamians of three simple ways to stop the spread of the Coronavirus:

1. Wash Your Hands
2. Social Distance
3. Wear Your Mask

Watch the full PSA below!



Pathfinder: Alabama health officer Dr. Scott Harris on a mission to guide state through COVID crisis



A colleague at the Alabama Department of Public Health has just told Harris that he's been named the Montgomery Advertiser's Community Hero for November, sponsored by Beasley Allen Law Firm, and that he's the first public official to receive the award.

Harris asks to pass along a message: He is honored, but an interview may be a bad idea.

Cases are rising, businesses are closing, and thousands of Alabamians are dead amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The last thing he wants to do is call attention to himself or, worse, participate in something that the public could misread as a victory lap and a signal that the danger is over. He's worried it could affect people's health.

He acquiesces, but only to discuss the urgency of the moment.

[See the story from Montgomery Advertiser](#)

ADPH Announces COVID-19 Vaccine Plan



The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) [announced that their COVID-19 vaccine distribution and administration plan](#) is being made available to the public. The goal of the plan is to immunize everyone who is eligible to receive a safe, effective, and approved COVID-19 vaccine.

The plan describes the allocation of vaccines to Alabamians once it becomes available, possibly before the end of 2020. The initial draft plan, developed in coordination with other state and local agencies, was submitted to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on October 16.

Several vaccine products are currently in clinical trials and will be released after their safety has been reviewed and approved by a panel of health experts. The vaccine will be provided free of charge.

[See the plan here](#)

WHAT WE'RE READING

- [Fever, Symptom Screening Misses Many Coronavirus Cases](#)
 - [CDC forecast predicts as many as 282,000 COVID-19 deaths by early December](#)
 - [Boosting access to mental health care during pandemic and beyond](#)
 - [Systematic Review Examines Prevalence Of Suicidal Ideation Among Physicians](#)
 - [Alabama schools 'missing' 5,000 students from enrollment count; COVID-19 likely reason](#)
-



Need PPE?

PPE is still available!

- Direct Shipping now available
- Free shipping on orders over \$500
- Nitrile gloves now in stock

[Click here for info.](#)



SaniStrap

SaniStrap contains wristband, two refillable bottles, and one travel size refill bottle. Sanitizer is NOT included in order - liquid gel sanitizer is recommended.

[Click here for info.](#)



Hand Sanitizer

Hand Sanitizer Options Available are:

70% Alcohol Gel Hand Sanitizer. Twelve (12), One (1) Liter bottles with pull-tab cap.

[Click here for info.](#)

MAJOR CHANGES COMING TO 2021 E/M CODING!

[Click here for more information.](#)



 MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA

COVID-19

EARN FREE CME

[FIND MORE INFORMATION ON COURSES HERE](#)



If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please [unsubscribe](#)

 **higher logic**