

# Local 710 Health, Welfare and Pension Funds



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**Re: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)**

 44-L

Dear Plan Participant:

With the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), your Board of Trustees are closely monitoring events related to COVID-19 and would like to provide this update regarding COVID-19, steps to prevent the spread of the virus, and related changes to your health plan's schedule of benefits.

Effective immediately, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Union Local No. 710 Health and Welfare Fund (the "Plan") has made the following temporary changes:

- The Plan will cover COVID-19 diagnostic testing at 100% (no member cost share) when medically necessary and appropriate according to the accepted guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and/or the Illinois Department of Health.
- The Plan will allow earlier access to refills for your prescribed maintenance drugs. For questions, or to inquire about receiving your medications through mail order, please contact OptumRx at [optumrx.com](http://optumrx.com).

The available information about how the virus that causes COVID-19 spread is largely based on what is known about similar coronaviruses. However, COVID-19 is a new disease and there is more to learn about its transmission, the severity of illness it causes, and to what extent it may spread in the United States. According to the CDC, a person may develop symptoms of the COVID-19 virus within 14 days of exposure. Symptoms include feeling sick with an acute respiratory illness, such as a fever, cough, or difficulty breathing. As there is no present vaccine to prevent COVID-19, the CDC recommends the following to prevent the spread of the virus:

1. Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and if soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol;
2. Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands;
3. Avoid close contact with people who are sick;
4. Stay home when sick;
5. Cover coughs or sneezes with tissues or cough into the elbow area, then discard the tissue in the trash and follow up with handwashing; and
6. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces regularly

Please remember MDLive, your telehealth provider, provides convenient access to Board-certified physicians on a remote basis at a **\$0 copay** and is available 24/7 by contacting [www.mdlive.com](http://www.mdlive.com). If you choose to seek care at a physician's office, please call your health care provider before you go, and tell them about your travel, if applicable, and your symptoms. They may give you instructions on how to get care without exposing other people to your illness.

More information about COVID-19 may be found at the following links:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)
- Illinois Department of Public Health: <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/>
- World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int>

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