

June 2020

Dear Colleagues

Discovery Health COVID-19 update for PPE

Thank you for your collaboration during this very difficult period for us all.

We wish to express our deepest gratitude to the profession for their commitment to their patients, our members, during this challenging time. You will be aware that Discovery Health has proactively effected numerous and frequent adjustments to funding polices in response to the Covid-19 outbreak. We are pleased to confirm that these funding adjustments will include a significant industry wide commitment to additional funding for PPE in response to the pandemic.

PPE Reimbursement

We recognize that Oral Health Care workers (OHC), due to the nature of the work and proximity to patients, are amongst those providers of healthcare services at greatest risk of exposure to the virus responsible for Covid-19. Furthermore we appreciate that appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is crucial to all patient engagements at this time. While security of supply was initially an issue, this has improved over recent weeks. Organizations leading the Covid-19 response have however urged the responsible use of PPE to ensure sufficient supply into the future as the number of infections increases. In addition to the above constraints, for health professionals and funders alike, PPE represents a significant unbudgeted cost and poses material risks to the industry at large if not approached in a considered and responsible manner.

Following detailed consultation with infectious disease experts, referencing published guidance on appropriate PPE during Covid-19 and based on direct discussions with the profession, the Discovery Health Medical Scheme (DHMS) has defined two PPE "baskets" to cater for aerosol generating (AGP) and non-aerosol generating (NAGP) patient engagements. Every care has been taken to provide for comprehensive PPE of best quality and price.

The payment amount for each discipline is determined by the typical blend of AGP and NAGP visits for that discipline. The amount for Dental Specialists, Dentists and other Oral Health Care Workers is R82.00 applicable to both the operator and assistant for each patient visit using code 8109.

The appended document provides detail specific to the additional PPE funding for Dental Specialists, Dentists and other Oral Health Care Workers (OHC). Also included is a list of suppliers and their contact details.

Our claim reimbursement system is being updated to accept this change and the effective date for this benefit will be communicated in the next few days.

We wish you strength at this difficult time and trust that this funding will assist in addressing the current challenges.

Sincerely



Dr Craig Owen
Dental Risk Management
Strategic Risk Management
Discovery Health

PPE Funding for Dental Specialists, Dentists and other Oral Health Care Workers (OHC)

Discovery health will fund for PPE for Dental Specialists, Dentists and other Oral Health Care Workers (OHC) at R82.00 for both the operator and assistant for each patient visit using code 8109.

- The fee represents a blend of 80% of visits requiring AGP PPE and 20% for more typical NAGP PPE.
- 8109 is billable at a quantity 2 per visit for the operator and assistant
- Funding will be from day to day benefits or from the scheme benefit where plan appropriate.
- Applicable to all plans of the Discovery Health Medical Scheme
- Other schemes administered by Discovery Health Pty Ltd will be included following scheme approval.

PPE Items

The following tables represent PPE appropriate for the AGP and NAGP scenarios. The average price for each item has been included with a list of suppliers provided below to assure access at the quoted price.

Aerosol Generating Procedure (AGP)	Final Basket Costs Incl Vat
Medical Mask: FFP2 or N95	R 38.02
Disposable gloves	R 3.14
Eye protection (Goggles or Visor) - Reusable - 10% fractional cost	R 4.17
Water-resistant gown	R 49.77
Head Cap	R 0.82
Shoe covers	R 0.97
Total	R 96.89

Non-Aerosol Generating Procedure (NAGP)	Final Basket Costs Incl Vat
3 Ply Surgical Mask	R 11.83
Disposable gloves	R 3.14
Eye protection (Goggles or Visor) - Reusable - 10% fractional cost	R 4.17
Apron	R 0.86
Head cap	R 0.82
Shoe covers	R 0.97
Total	R 21.79

Suppliers list

Product Name	Category	Supplier	Contact Person	Contact Email/Website	Contact Number
3 ply masks	3 Ply Masks	Kendon Medical	Michelle Cook-Patterson	keyaccs@kendon.co.za	011 608 1170
3 ply masks	3 Ply Masks	Pharmed		www.pharmed.co.za	
3 ply masks Blue Fluid Resistant	3 Ply Masks	Bakoni Medical	Elijah Tjiane	elijah@bakonimedical.co.za	012 941 1533
Disposable Caps/Bouffant	Caps	Pharmed		www.pharmed.co.za	
Disposable Caps/Bouffant	Caps	Hartmann	Stephanie Govender	Stephanie.Govender@hartmann.info	011 7047420
Disposable Caps/Bouffant	Caps	Hartmann	Stephanie Govender	Stephanie.Govender@hartmann.info	011 7047420
Examination Gloves	Examination Gloves	Pharmed		www.pharmed.co.za	
Face Shield	Face Shield	Pharmed		www.pharmed.co.za	
Eye Goggles	Goggles	Pharmed		www.pharmed.co.za	
Eye Goggles	Goggles	Bakoni Medical	Elijah Tjiane	elijah@bakonimedical.co.za	012 941 1533
Foliodress Protect Standard	Gowns	Hartmann	Stephanie Govender	Stephanie.Govender@hartmann.info	011 7047420
Foliodress Protect Reinforced	Gowns	Hartmann	Stephanie Govender	Stephanie.Govender@hartmann.info	011 7047420
Foliodress Protect Standard	Gowns	Surgiplus	Sheldon Ramdin	s.ramdin@surgiplus.co.za	064 700 6354
n95 Mask	n95 Masks	Kendon Medical	Michelle Cook-Patterson	keyaccs@kendon.co.za	011 608 1170
n95 Mask	n95 Masks	Bakoni Medical	Elijah Tjiane	elijah@bakonimedical.co.za	012 941 1533
n95 Mask	n95 Masks	Four Noble Truths CC		orders@4nobletruths.co.za	011 875 1406
n95 Mask	n95 Masks		Dr L. Spooler	doctor@drspooler.co.za	082 852 8516
Overshoes Regular - Blue	Shoes	Hartmann	Stephanie Govender	Stephanie.Govender@hartmann.info	011 7047420
Overshoes Large - Blue	Shoes	Hartmann	Stephanie Govender	Stephanie.Govender@hartmann.info	011 7047420
Surgical gloves - Size 7 (50's)	Surgical Gloves	Kendon Medical	Michelle Cook-Patterson	keyaccs@kendon.co.za	011 608 1170
Surgical gloves - Size 8 (50's)	Surgical Gloves	Kendon Medical	Michelle Cook-Patterson	keyaccs@kendon.co.za	011 608 1170