


To: Medi-Cal and Cal MediConnect\* network participants

From: Manuel T.G. Enriquez   
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Subject: COVID-19 All Plan Letters – APL 20-022 revisions regarding vaccine administration and testing requirements for healthcare workers

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The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has issued several All Plan Letters (APLs) to Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCPs) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Recently, APL 20-022 was revised regarding vaccine administration and testing requirements for healthcare workers. We are sharing a summary of these APL guidelines with you to ensure you are aware of the information.

Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan (Blue Shield Promise) also publishes other [COVID-19 information](#), some of which pertains to network Medi-Cal service providers.

#### [APL 20-022](#)

#### COVID-19 Vaccine Administration

Updates include:

- COVID-19 vaccines are now recommended for children ages **6 months** and older. (The prior age limit was 5 years and older.)
- The [My Turn website](#) can now help people find a walk-in clinic where they can be vaccinated.
- People who are medically fragile or who have mobility issues may qualify for in-home vaccination. Homebound individuals should now contact their medical provider, local health department or call 211 to request an in-home vaccination. (Previously, they checked a box on the My Turn website and waited for a call.)
- The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has rescinded diagnostic testing requirements for workers in healthcare settings, long-term care, congregate living, and similar types of facilities who are not fully vaccinated.
- CDPH has rescinded diagnostic testing requirements for workers in healthcare facilities and in-home direct care who have not received their booster and who are exempt for medical reasons or religious beliefs.
- Masks remain required in healthcare settings and long-term care, adult, and senior facilities, regardless of vaccination status. [Read CDPH mask guidance.](#)
- CDPH has revised the recommended timing of booster shots for healthcare workers. [Read CDPH vaccine requirements.](#)

This summary is only meant as a brief description of the APL guidelines. Please see the entire APL for the complete requirements. The full text of all DHCS managed care APLs may be found at this URL: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/Pages/AllPlanLetters.aspx>. Links to the DHCS.ca.gov website will take you off of the Blue Shield Promise website.

If you have questions about applying any of the information in this notice to Blue Shield Promise members, please call our Provider Services Department at (800) 468-9935 from 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

\*Cal MediConnect network participants are responsible for identifying and applying the guidance and requirements that pertain to their patients.