

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Michelle H. Seagull
Commissioner

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner



Ned Lamont
Governor

Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

TO: Connecticut Retail Pharmacy Providers
FROM: Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Connecticut Department of Public Health Commissioner
Michelle H. Seagull
Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection Commissioner
DATE: August 2, 2021

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Handwritten signature of Michelle H. Seagull in blue ink.

The Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) would like to solicit your assistance with eliminating COVID-19 testing and vaccination barriers within the undocumented/uninsured community. DPH has identified two areas of concern:

- Many undocumented/uninsured community residents have resisted obtaining a needed COVID test not knowing that they are actually not required to provide a social security number or other form of ID. Although Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) requires that you request either a social security number, driver's license, or state identification to verify an individual's uninsured status, HRSA has given providers the ability to attest that an attempt was made to capture this information before submitting the claim and the address of the facility where the care was provided for reimbursement purposes.
- In order to participate in the HRSA program, providers cannot balance bill the participants.

In order to encourage testing and vaccination among the undocumented/uninsured community and to help contain the spread of COVID-19, DPH is requesting that retail pharmacies provide clear and concise communication of the following two messages on in-store postings and signage, websites and social media:

1. Health insurance and a state-issued ID are not required to receive COVID-19 testing or vaccination, and you will not be turned away if you do not have insurance or an ID.
2. If you do not have insurance, the in-clinic visit will be covered at no additional cost to you.

A simple, one page [fact sheet is available](#) in English and Spanish on the HRSA web site.

DPH is grateful and appreciates the testing and vaccination you do for our community. We are hoping that these clarifications will help us eliminate barriers to ensure testing and vaccination is open and available to all our community members. If you have any further questions, please contact the DPH Immunization Program at DPH.Immunizations@ct.gov.

