

24 August 2020

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Dear Service Provider,

Polmed would like to state that it is acutely aware of the dynamic and variable nature of this pandemic and understands that decisions made today may need to be revisited in the future. In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, PPE has become a scarce commodity across the world. Consequently, prices have risen exponentially. South Africa is faced with the added impact of the devaluation of the Rand. With the current Pandemic, Polmed has agreed to reimburse service providers for the use of PPEs from 1 August 2020.

PPE funding will be limited to COVID-19 positive patients (ICD-10 Code U07.1) and Persons Under Investigation (PUIs, ICD-10 Code U07.2). PUIs must meet the NICD definitions to be considered for funding of PPEs. The funding of PPEs is only for cost recovery. Polmed will not fund any mark-up on PPEs.

### **PPE Funding**

Polmed will not fund any additional PPEs that may be billed as a fee-for-service item. Non-specific NAPPI codes will not be funded.

Double billing or over-recovery of PPEs should not be allowed.

The Scheme recommends that the prices of PPE should be monitored and that where there are fluctuations in price, that the quantum of the PPE funding be revised accordingly.

Polmed will fund PPEs for Emergency transportation as follows:

| Tariff Code | Tariff Descriptor  | Amount<br>(Including<br>VAT) |
|-------------|--|------------------------------|
| PPEEMS S1   | Persons Under Investigation (PUIs, ICD-10 Code U07.2)<br><br>2 x Healthcare Practitioners per vehicle and the patient. | R28.24                       |
| PPEEMS S2   | COVID-19 positive patients (ICD-10 Code U07.1)<br><br>2 x Healthcare Practitioners per vehicle and the patient.        | R160.00                      |

These are trying times for both funders and providers. Polmed would therefore like to carefully manage the benefits offered to members for the sake of continuation of care.

We look forward to a continued good working relationship with you for the benefit of our members.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Vuyo Mpongoshe

Polmed: Senior Manager- Clinical Services