

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is allowing for payment when physicians and health care providers counsel patient during self-isolation period after patients have been test and prior to the onset of symptoms if the results are positive. The counseling can include the any of the below discussion points:

- Discuss the need for immediate isolation, even before results of the test are available
- Advise patients to inform their immediate household/contacts that they may wish to be tested and quarantine as well. Review locations and people they have been in contact with in the past two weeks
- Review signs and symptoms of COVID 19
- Inform patients that if positive, they will likely be contacted by a public health worker and asked to provide a list of the people they've been with for contact tracing, encourage them to 'answer the call'.
- Discuss services that might help the patient successful isolate and quarantine at home.

The providers furnishing these services **must document that they spent more than 50 percent of the service providing counseling and coordination of care to determine the EM level of service. Time must be a part of the documentation with a brief summary of what they discussed.**

The EPIC system SmartPhrase - COMPTIMECOUNSELINGOUTPATIENT was updated to include the CMS documentation discussion points as an additional smart list as COVIDCOUNSELINGOUTPATIENT. The provider will be able to select and customize their discussion with the patient.



See below list options:

- I discussed with the patient/family the need for immediate isolation, even before the results of the test are available.
- I advised the patient to inform their immediate household/contacts that they may wish to be tested and quarantine as well. We reviewed locations and people they have been in contact with in the past two weeks.
- I reviewed the signs and symptoms of COVID 19.
- I informed patient that if positive, they will likely be contacted by a public health worker and asked to provide a list of the people they've been with for contact tracing. I encouraged the patient to "answer the call".
- I discussed services that might help the patient successfully isolate and quarantine at home.