



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# AvMed Continues to Extend COVID-19 Benefits and Coverage for Members Into 2021

**MIAMI, Fla. – February 10, 2021** – AvMed, one of Florida’s oldest and largest not-for-profit health plans, is taking proactive action in response to the COVID-19 pandemic by continuing to increase access to care and removing potential cost barriers for its members. This includes extending COVID-19 benefits and coverage, beyond testing and medication requirements, into 2021.

“We realize that COVID-19 testing and increasing access to prescription medication is only part of the equation when it comes to helping our members stay physically and financially healthy during these challenging times,” said James M. Repp, president and chief operating officer at AvMed. “It’s crucial we continue to provide additional benefits and coverage options for our members for a more holistic approach to managing their health and wellbeing,” added Repp.

Below is a recap of the COVID-19 benefits and services AvMed continues to provide to its members.

**Zero Cost Diagnostic Testing:** AvMed is encouraging its members to immediately call their healthcare provider if they are experiencing symptoms or think they may have been exposed to COVID-19. If it is determined that coronavirus testing is needed, AvMed will waive the cost share for diagnostic testing for fully-insured commercial and Medicare members until 05/31/2021.

**Zero Cost Treatment:** To make it as simple as possible for members, AvMed is waiving out-of-pocket costs for all COVID-19 treatment until 05/31/2021. AvMed will also administer a waiver for self-funded group health plans at their request. The treatments covered at no out-of-pocket cost for COVID-19 are those covered under Medicare or other applicable state regulations.

**No Specialist Referral Requirements:** To improve access to care during this difficult time, AvMed will also waive primary care-to-specialist referrals until 05/31/2021.

**Increased Access to Prescription Medications:** AvMed is also waiving early refill limits on 30-day prescriptions for maintenance medications until at least 03/05/2021 as per the state’s requirement. Members who wish to request a 90-day supply of their medication may do so as part of their benefit any time of the year.



**Zero Cost Virtual Visits:** To ensure that members have the access to the care they need without increasing their risk of exposure, AvMed wants to remind members to take advantage of their Virtual Visits benefit to access board-certified physicians conveniently from their computer or smartphone - - anytime, anywhere. AvMed's Virtual Visits, powered by MDLive, can be accessed 24/7/365 and help reduce the opportunities for disease transmission by going to [members.mdlive.com/avmed](https://members.mdlive.com/avmed). To reduce barriers to access, AvMed is offering zero copays and cost share for any and all types of virtual visits until 05/31/2021. Additionally, where applicable, copays and cost share will be waived for telehealth visits, as well as telephone visits, members may need from their traditional healthcare providers.

**Expanded Behavioral Health Access:** During this time of heightened concern, AvMed is encouraging members who need help managing their stress and anxiety about the COVID-19 outbreak to tap their plan's new behavioral health partner at Optum. For more information, members may call 1-866-284-6989 (Medicare members) or 1-866-293-2689 (all other members).

Members who have questions or need additional information are encouraged to visit [www.AvMed.Org/News/Coronavirus](https://www.AvMed.Org/News/Coronavirus), call the Member Engagement Center at the number listed on their card or send a secure message via their Member Portal.

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### About AvMed

AvMed transforms lives to create a WELLfluent™ world. By uniting around this sole purpose over our 50- year history, we've aimed to inspire our Floridian health plan Members to focus on celebrating the riches that matter most— health and happiness. Learn more at [AvMed.Org](https://www.AvMed.Org).

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