MEMORANDUM (DMS-19)

To: Medicaid Providers  
From: Division of Medical Services (DMS)  
Date: March 31, 2020  
Re: Mobile Clinics and COVID-19 Screening

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak in Arkansas and consistent with CMS’s coverage and payment for COVID-19 diagnosis and treatment, DMS is allowing certain providers to set up Mobile (“Pop-up”) clinics to screen and test for COVID-19.

Specifically, physicians’ clinics, rural health clinics, federally qualified health centers and hospitals may set up Pop-up or drive-thru clinics in remote locations to provide the following services only:

- Screening for COVID-19 (99499, described below)
- Diagnostic Testing for COVID-19 (U0001 & U0002, described in DMS-03)

These services will be billed using the provider’s Medicaid Provider Number and Place of Service 15 (Mobile Clinic).

To accommodate screening for COVID-19, DMS is loading the following code:

**99499—Unlisted E&M Service** to be billed for COVID-19 Screening. The code will be available to the following provider types:

- Physicians
- APRNs
- Rural Health Clinics
- Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Hospitals

This code should not be used in conjunction with any other E&M or encounter code that may be billed by the provider but should only be used to reflect a screening for COVID-19 (i.e., completing a questionnaire and taking temperature). The rate is $25.00 for each screening.

This guidance is effective for dates of service March 31, 2020 and will be in place throughout the public health emergency.

To ensure quality and consistency of care to Medicaid beneficiaries, DMS will coordinate with the Office of the Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG) to conduct retrospective reviews and audits of
services provided pursuant to this guidance. Please keep all records of services as required by Medicaid billing rules.