



*Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515*

*Anna G. Eshoo
Eighteenth District
California*

September 12, 2022

The Honorable Chiquita Brooks-LaSure
Administrator
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Administrator Brooks-LaSure,

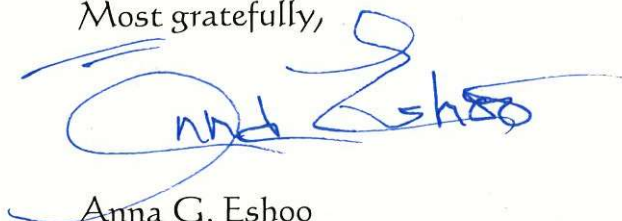
I commend the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for expanding coverage of at-home Covid-19 diagnostic tests to Medicare beneficiaries at no cost on April 4, 2022. This coverage decision was a historic first for our country, as Medicare beneficiaries could receive the same diagnostic coverage benefits as those who are privately insured. Broad access to diagnostic testing is paramount for effectively mitigating the spread of Covid-19, and I'm grateful for the work that CMS has done to protect the health of those living in the United States throughout this pandemic.

As it currently stands, Medicare coverage for at-home Covid-19 diagnostic tests is set to expire at the end of the Covid-19 public health emergency (PHE). At-home Covid-19 tests have become a routine and important part of our country's mitigation strategies, and ending insurance coverage for these tests could impede their accessibility for those who are among the most susceptible and vulnerable to infection. The need for at-home Covid-19 tests will not go away when the PHE ends. It is critical that we maintain robust access to at-home diagnostic tools that can help stop the spread of this virus at any time, particularly since new variants are known to arise.

I urge you to ensure our nation's Medicare beneficiaries have access to the Covid-19 diagnostic tests they've come to rely on beyond the PHE. I ask that you provide me with additional information on CMS' authority and plans to extend this coverage program beyond the Covid-19 PHE.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and I look forward to your timely response. As always, I stand ready and willing to work with you in reaching our mutual goal of mitigating the impact of Covid-19 for all Americans.

Most gratefully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anna G. Eshoo". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "A" and a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress