

## **FAQS – November 4, 2020**

1. What did AltaMed do this year to recognize our Medical Assistants? Medical Assistant Week is the third week of October. With all the furloughs that happened within the company, many of whom were MAs, what has AltaMed done to recognize us and show us that we are also appreciated?

### **From the COVID-19 Response Team:**

All clinical roles – NPs, RNs, LVNs, MAs – were celebrated in May. AltaMed as an organization chooses to celebrate everyone at the same time instead of having multiple celebrations throughout the year. All communications for the celebration referenced and included our medical assistants. This year, because of the pandemic, AltaMed sent food out to each location to celebrate separately and socially distance. Mary Ann Barnes and Jackie Levy also visited each clinic to say thanks to all clinical staff.

2. In anticipation of the second wave of the coronavirus, are we stocking up on PPE (N95) so we will not be short-handed during the spike?

### **From the COVID-19 Response Team:**

We have already stocked up on PPE and have enough overall numbers of N95 masks to get us through this winter and spring. For those staff members who are fitted for some masks that have been unavailable on the market, I recommend trying to get refitted with some of our more plentiful masks, including the BYD mask, which fits up to 90% of those that fit tested for it. Supply chain also has the fit testing solution in stock if needed.

3. Is AltaMed going to offer an antibody test anytime soon?

### **From the COVID-19 Response Team:**

We are in talks with different companies that are making rapid antigen testing and are trying to secure this method of testing as soon as possible. Antibody tests can be completed through Quest but we have not added that test to our EPIC testing database yet. We are looking at when it would be appropriate to open that order up and give very strict guidelines for its use.