



Quarterly Update for Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule and Laboratory Services Subject to Reasonable Charge Payment

MLN Matters Number: MM10445 **Revised**

Related Change Request (CR) Number: CR10445

Related CR Release Date: March 14, 2018

Effective Date: January 1, 2018, for new HCPCS codes, otherwise April 1, 2018

Related CR Transmittal Number: R3999CP

Implementation Date: April 2, 2018

Note: This article was revised on March 15, 2018, to reflect an updated Change Request (CR). That CR removed the list of new codes with a QW modifier that were effective as of April 1, 2018 from the policy section. All other information remains the same.

PROVIDER TYPE AFFECTED

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for clinical diagnostic laboratories submitting claims to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

PROVIDER ACTION NEEDED

CR 10445 which informs the MACs about the changes in the April 2018 quarterly update to the Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule (CLFS). Make sure that your billing staffs are aware of these changes.

BACKGROUND

Effective January 1, 2018, CLFS rates will be based on weighted median private payor rates as required by the Protecting Access to Medicare Act (PAMA) of 2014. For more details, visit PAMA Regulations, at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/ClinicalLabFeeSched/PAMA-Regulations.html>.

Part B deductible and coinsurance do not apply for services paid under the CLFS.

Access to Data File

Internet access to the quarterly CLFS data file will be available at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/ClinicalLabFeeSched/index.html>. Interested parties, such as the Medicaid State agencies, the Indian Health Service, the United Mine Workers, and the Railroad Retirement Board, should use the Internet to retrieve the quarterly clinical laboratory fee schedule. The file

will be available in multiple formats: Excel, text, and comma delimited.

Pricing Information

The CLFS includes separately payable fees for certain specimen collection methods (codes 36415, P9612, and P9615). The fees are established in accordance with Section 1833(h)(4)(B) of the Social Security Act.

New Codes

The following new codes will be MAC priced, until they are addressed at the annual Clinical Laboratory Public Meeting, which will take place in July, 2018. The following "U" codes shall have HCPCS Pricing Indicator Code - 22 = Price established by A/B MACs Part B (e.G., gap-fills, A/B MACs Part B established panels) instead of Pricing Indicator - 21 = Price Subject to National Limitation Amount. (Code, Long Descriptor, Short Descriptor, Effective Date, Type of Service (TOS))

- 0024U Glycosylated acute phase proteins (GlycA), nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy, quantitative GLYCA NUC MR SPECTRSC QUAN 1/1/2018 5
- 0025U Tenofovir, by liquid chromatography with tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS), urine, quantitative TENOFOVIR LIQ CHROM UR QUAN 1/1/2018 5
- 0026U Oncology (thyroid), DNA and mRNA of 112 genes, next-generation sequencing, fine needle aspirate of thyroid nodule, algorithmic analysis reported as a categorical result ("Positive, high probability of malignancy" or "Negative, low probability of malignancy") ONC THYR DNA&MRNA 112 GENES 1/1/18 5
- 0027U JAK2 (Janus kinase 2) (eg, myeloproliferative disorder) gene analysis, targeted sequence analysis exons 12-15 JAK2 GENE TRGT SEQ ALYS 1/1/18 5
- 0028U CYP2D6 (cytochrome P450, family 2, subfamily D, polypeptide 6) (eg, drug metabolism) gene analysis, copy number variants, common variants with reflex to targeted sequence analysis CYP2D6 GENE CPY NMR CMN VRNT 1/1/18 5
- 0029U Drug metabolism (adverse drug reactions and drug response), targeted sequence analysis (ie, CYP1A2, CYP2C19, CYP2C9, CYP2D6, CYP3A4, CYP3A5, CYP4F2, SLCO1B1, VKORC1 and rs12777823) RX METAB ADVRS TRGT SEQ ALYS 1/1/18 5
- 0030U Drug metabolism (warfarin drug response), targeted sequence analysis (ie, CYP2C9, CYP4F2, VKORC1, rs12777823) RX METAB WARF TRGT SEQ ALYS 1/1/18 5
- 0031U CYP1A2 (cytochrome P450 family 1, subfamily A, member 2)(eg, drug metabolism) gene analysis, common variants (ie, *1F, *1K, *6, *7) CYP1A2 GENE 1/1/18 5

- 0032U COMT (catechol-O-methyltransferase)(drug metabolism) gene analysis, c.472G>A (rs4680) variant COMT GENE 1/1/18 5
- 0033U HTR2A (5-hydroxytryptamine receptor 2A), HTR2C (5-hydroxytryptamine receptor 2C) (eg, citalopram metabolism) gene analysis, common variants (ie, HTR2A rs7997012 [c.614-2211T>C], HTR2C rs3813929 [c.-759C>T] and rs1414334 [c.551-3008C>G]) HTR2A HTR2C GENES 1/1/18 5
- 0034U TPMT (thiopurine S-methyltransferase), NUDT15 (nudix hydroxylase 15)(eg, thiopurine metabolism), gene analysis, common variants (ie, TPMT *2, *3A, *3B, *3C, *4, *5, *6, *8, *12; NUDT15 *3, *4, *5) TPMT NUDT15 GENES 1/1/18 5

The following new code is effective January 1, 2018:

New code 87634QW is priced at the same rate as code 87634.

Deleted Codes

The following codes are deleted effective January 1, 2018:

Existing code 0004U is to be deleted.

Existing code 0015U is to be deleted.

Existing code 81280 is to be deleted.

Existing code 81281 is to be deleted.

Existing code 81282 is to be deleted.

Code Update

Existing code 80410 had an incorrect crosswalk (multiplier of 1 instead of 3) in the annual CLFS file, and is corrected with this CR in the quarterly file, effective January 1, 2018.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, CR10445, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2018Downloads/R3999CP.pdf>.

If you have any questions, please contact your MAC at their toll-free number. That number is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/Medicare-FFS-Compliance-Programs/Review-Contractor-Directory-Interactive-Map/>.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Date of Change	Description
March 15, 2018	The article was revised to reflect an updated CR. That CR removed the list of new codes with a QW modifier that were effective as of April 1, 2018 from the policy section.
February 9, 2018	Initial article released.

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