

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



News Flash – On August 24, Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced a final rule that will save time and money for physicians and other health care providers by establishing a unique Health Plan Identifier (HPID). The rule is one of a series of changes required by the Affordable Care Act to cut red tape in the health care system and will save up to \$6 billion over ten years. Currently, when a health care provider bills a health plan, that plan may use a wide range of different identifiers that do not have a standard format. As a result, health care providers run into a number of time-consuming problems, such as misrouting of transactions, rejection of transactions due to insurance identification errors, and difficulty determining patient eligibility. The change announced on August 24 will greatly simplify these processes. For more information, see the [Fact Sheet](#) related to this final rule.

MLN Matters® Number: MM8054

Related Change Request (CR) #: 8054

Related CR Release Date: September 28, 2012

Effective Date: January 1, 2013

Related CR Transmittal #: R2553CP

Implementation Date: January 7, 2013

New Waived Tests

Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for clinical diagnostic laboratories submitting claims to Medicare contractors (carriers and A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs)) for services to Medicare beneficiaries.

Provider Action Needed

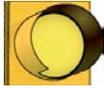


STOP – Impact to You

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 8054 which informs Medicare contractors that there are 36 newly added waived tests. In addition, the new CPT code, 86803QW, was assigned for the hepatitis C antibody test performed using the OraQuick HCV Rapid Antibody Test and OraQuick Visual Reference Panel.

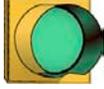
Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents. CPT only copyright 2011 American Medical Association.



CAUTION – What You Need to Know

CLIA requires that for each test it performs, a laboratory facility must be appropriately certified. The CPT codes that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) considers to be laboratory tests under CLIA (and thus requiring certification) change each year. CR 8054, from which this article is taken, informs carriers and MACs about the latest new CPT codes that are subject to CLIA edits.



GO – What You Need to Do

Make sure that your billing staffs are aware of these changes. See the Background and Additional Information Sections of this article for further details regarding these changes.

Background

The Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA) regulations require a facility to be appropriately certified for each test performed. To ensure that Medicare & Medicaid only pay for laboratory tests categorized as waived complexity under CLIA in facilities with a CLIA certificate of waiver, laboratory claims are currently edited at the CLIA certificate level. If you do not have a valid, current Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1998 (CLIA) certificate and submit a claim to your Medicare Carrier or A/B MAC for a Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code that is considered to be a laboratory test requiring a CLIA certificate, your Medicare payment may be impacted.

Listed below are the latest tests approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as waived tests under CLIA. The CPT codes for the following new tests must have the modifier QW to be recognized as a waived test. (However, the tests mentioned on the first page of the list attached to CR8054 (i.e., CPT codes 81002, 81025, 82270, 82272, 82962, 83026, 84830, 85013, and 85651) do not require a QW modifier to be recognized as a waived test.)

CPT Code	Effective Date	Description
86803QW	November 29, 2011	OraQuick HCV Rapid Antibody Test and OraQuick Visual Reference Panel
87809QW	April 24, 2012	AdenoPlus (human eye fluid)
81003QW	May 8, 2012	McKesson 120 Urine Analyzer
81003QW	May 11, 2012	Acon Laboratories, Inc. Foresight U120 Urine Analyzer
86294QW	May 15, 2012	LifeSign Status BTA
82055QW	May 25, 2012	Alere Toxicology Services, iScreen Saliva Alcohol Test Strip

Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents. CPT only copyright 2011 American Medical Association.

CPT Code	Effective Date	Description
82055QW	May 25, 2012	American Screening Corporation, Reveal Saliva Alcohol Test Strip
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test Cassette
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test Cassette Amp/Amphetamine
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test Secobarbital Cassette
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test Oxazepam Cassette
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test Strip
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test Strip Amp/Amphetamine
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test Secobarbital Strip
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test Oxazepam Strip
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test (COC/Cocaine){Cup format}
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test (MET/Methamphetamine){Cup format}
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test (MDMA/Methylenedioxymethamphetamine){Cup format}
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test (MOP/Morphine){Cup format}
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test (MTD/Methadone){Cup format}
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test Morphine (2000){Cup format}
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test (PCP/Phencyclidine){Cup format}

Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents. CPT only copyright 2011 American Medical Association.

CPT Code	Effective Date	Description
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test Natriptyline{Cup format}
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test (COC/Cocaine){Dip card format}
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test (MET/Methamphetamine){Dip card format}
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test (MDMA/Methylenedioxymethamphetamine){Dip card format}
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test (MOP/Morphine){Dip card format}
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test (MTD/Methadone){Dip card format}
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test Morphine (2000){Dip card format}
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test (PCP/Phencyclidine){Dip card format}
G0434QW	May 29, 2012	BTNX Inc Rapid Response X-Press Drug Test Natriptyline{Dip card format}
83036QW	May 30, 2012	Bayer AICNow+ Professional Use
87880QW	June 7, 2012	Mooremedical Strep A Rapid Test - Dipstick
G0434QW	July 13, 2012	Ultimate Analysis Cup UA Cups
86701QW	July 20, 2012	bioLytical INSTI HIV-1 Antibody Test {Fingerstick Whole Blood}
G0433QW	July 20, 2012	OraSure Technologies OraQuick In-Home HIV Test {Oral Fluid}

The new CPT code, 86803QW, has been assigned for the hepatitis C antibody test performed using the OraQuick HCV Rapid Antibody Test and OraQuick Visual Reference Panel.

Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents. CPT only copyright 2011 American Medical Association.

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR 8054 issued to your carrier and A/B MAC regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R2553CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your carrier or A/B MAC at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/provider-compliance-interactive-map/index.html> on the CMS website.

News Flash - Influenza Season is Around the Corner - As your patients age, their immune systems may weaken. This weakening can make seniors more susceptible to complications from seasonal influenza (flu). Now is the perfect time to remind your patients that seasonal influenza vaccination is the best defense against the flu. Medicare provides coverage for one flu vaccine and its administration per influenza season for seniors and other Medicare beneficiaries with no co-pay or deductible. Talk with your Medicare patients about their risk for getting the flu and start protecting your patients as soon as your 2012-2013 seasonal flu vaccine arrives. Also, don't forget to immunize yourself and your staff. *Know what to do about the flu.*

Remember – The influenza vaccine plus its administration is a covered Part B benefit. The influenza vaccine is NOT a Part D covered drug. CMS will provide information and a link to the 2012-2013 Influenza Vaccine prices when they are available.

For more information on coverage and billing of the flu vaccine and its administration, please visit the [CMS Medicare Learning Network® Preventive Services Educational Products](#) and [CMS Immunizations](#) web pages. While some providers may offer the flu vaccine, others can help their patients locate a vaccine provider within their local community. [HealthMap Vaccine Finder](#) is a free, online service where users can search for locations offering flu vaccines.

Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents. CPT only copyright 2011 American Medical Association.