



Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule & Laboratory Services Subject to Reasonable Charge Payment: April 2026 Update

Related Change Request (CR) Information	
Number: 14371	Release Date: February 20, 2026
Effective Date: April 1, 2026	Implementation Date: April 6, 2026
Transmittal Number: R13639CP	
Title: Quarterly Update for Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule (CLFS) and Laboratory Services Subject to Reasonable Charge Payment	

Affected Providers

- Laboratories
- Other providers billing Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for laboratory services

Action Needed

Make sure your billing staff knows about Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule (CLFS) updates:

- The next data reporting period for clinical diagnostic laboratory tests (CDLTs)
- New CPT codes, effective April 1, 2026

Key Updates

Data Reporting Period for CDLTs

The next data reporting period is May 1, 2026 – July 31, 2026, based on the data collection period of January 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025

Advanced Diagnostic Laboratory Tests

For more details on Advanced Diagnostic Laboratory Tests (ADTLs), see [ADLT Information](#).

New Proprietary Laboratory Analysis Codes

The [new codes table](#) in CR 14371 lists new codes, effective April 1, 2026, that we’re adding to the HCPCS file. MACs don’t need to add these codes to the HCPCS file manually. However, these new codes are MAC-priced (where applicable) until they’re nationally priced and undergo the CLFS annual payment determination process per sections 1833(h)(8), 1834(A)(c), and 1834(A)(f) of the [Social Security Act](#). MACs price proprietary laboratory analysis codes for laboratories only within their jurisdiction.

Note: MACs won’t search their files to retract payment or retroactively pay claims but will adjust claims you bring to their attention.

Background

On February 3, 2026, Congress passed section 6226 of the [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026](#), which specifies an updated data reporting requirement for CDLTs that aren’t ADLTs. It also delays the phase-in of payment reductions under the CLFS from private payor rate implementation.

- The next data reporting period is May 1, 2026 – July 31, 2026, based on the data collection period of January 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025
- There’s no phased-in reduction in CY 2026
- Starting January 1, 2027, we won’t reduce payment by more than 15% compared to the payment amount established for a test the previous year

More Information

We issued CR 14371 to your MAC as the official instruction for this change. For more information, find your [MAC’s website](#).

Document History

Date of Change	Description
February 20, 2026	Initial article released.

View the [Medicare Learning Network® Content Disclaimer and Department of Health & Human Services Disclosure](#). The Medicare Learning Network®, MLN Connects®, and MLN Matters® are registered trademarks of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS).