

2018 Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule (CLFS) Public Use File (PUF) **Read Me File**

File Contents:

The 2018 CLFS was completed according to the instructions issued in the most recent Change Request (CR) pertaining to the Calendar Year (CY) 2018 Annual Update for Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule and Laboratory Services Subject to Reasonable Charge Payment. The Program Transmittals can be accessed online at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/>.

18CLABQ#.ZIP, a compressed file publically available online at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/ClinicalLabFeeSched/Clinical-Laboratory-Fee-Schedule-Files.html>, includes the CLFS and supporting documents for Calendar Year (CY) 2018. Upon extraction, four separate files will become available:

- 1) **CLAB2018Q#.xls**, an excel file containing CLFS data;
- 2) **CLAB2018Q#.txt**, a text file containing CLFS data;
- 3) **CLAB2018Q#.csv**, a comma delimited file containing CLFS data;
- 4) **CLAB2018Q#.pdf**, a PDF which contains general information about the file's content, background, organization, update schedule, and record layout; and

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CPT codes, and descriptions only are copyright 2018 American Medical Association. All Rights Reserved. Applicable FARS\DFARS Apply.

Record Layout:

See Attachments A-1 and A-2.

Attachment A-1

**Record Layout for the 2018 CLFS PUF
CLAB2018Q#.xls & CLAB2018Q#.csv**

| Column | Name | Comment |
|---------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Year | Current calendar year associated with the CLFS. |
| 2 | HCPCS Code | All active CPT and alpha-numeric codes subject to the CLFS. |
| 3 | Modifier | Where modifier is shown, QW denotes a CLIA waived test. |
| 4 | Effective Date | The date for which the HCPCS code becomes effective. All codes will have a '20180101' effective date per the first year of the new CLFS. |
| 5 | Indicator | National or local pricing indicator. |
| 6 | Payment Rate | Payment amount associated with each HCPCS code. |
| 7 | Description | Short description of the applicable HCPCS code. |

Record Layout for the 2018 CLFS PUF
CLAB2018Q#.txt

| Field Name | Start/End Position | Picture | Comment |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Header Record (Lines 1 – 2) | | | |
| Header Indicator | 1-3 | X(03) | Value 'HDR' |
| Filler | 4-4 | X(01) | Value ',' |
| Copyright Statement | 5-97 | X(93) | |
| Filler | 93-100 | X(3) | |
| Data Record (Lines 3 – END) | | | |
| Year | 1-4 | X(04) | 20**' |
| Filler | 5-5 | X(01) | Value ',' |
| HCPCS Code | 6-10 | X(05) | All active CPT and alpha-numeric codes subject to the CLFS. |
| Filler | 11-11 | X(01) | Value ',' |
| Modifier | 12-13 | X(02) | Where modifier is shown, QW denotes a CLIA waived test. |
| Filler | 14-14 | X(01) | Value ',' |
| Effective Date | 15-22 | X(08) | The date for which the HCPCS code becomes effective. All codes will have a '20180101' effective date per the first year of the new CLFS. |
| Filler | 23-23 | X(01) | Value ',' |
| Indicator | 24-24 | X(01) | National or local pricing indicator. |
| Filler | 25-25 | X(01) | Value ',' |
| Payment Rate | 26-33 | 99999.99 | Payment amount associated with each HCPCS code. |
| Filler | 34-34 | X(01) | Value ',' |
| Short Description | 35-74 | X(40) | Short description of the applicable HCPCS code. |
| Filler | 75-100 | X(04) | |