



New Waived Tests

MLN Matters Number: MM10418

Related Change Request (CR) Number: 10418

Related CR Release Date: January 5, 2018

Effective Date: April 1, 2018

Related CR Transmittal Number: R3945CP

Implementation Date: April 2, 2018

PROVIDER TYPES 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

Change Request (CR) 10418 informs MACs of new Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA) waived tests approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Since these tests are marketed immediately after approval, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) must notify its MACs of the new tests so they can accurately process claims. There are four (4) newly added waived complexity tests. Make sure your billing staffs are aware of 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.

CR10418 describes the latest tests approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as waived tests under CLIA. The Current Procedural Terminology (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 CR10418 (that is, 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.

The CPT code, effective date, and description for the latest tests approved by the FDA as waived tests under CLIA are as follows:

- 83516QW, October 2, 2017, Quidel Corporation, InflammDry
- 87809QW, October 3, 2017, Quidel, AdenoPlus Test {Tear Fluid}
- 82274QW, G0328QW, October 13, 2017, Enterix Inc. InSure One – One Day Fecal Immunochemical Test
- 85025QW, November 6, 2017, Sysmex XW-100

The new waived complexity code 85025QW [Blood count; complete (CBC), automated (Hgb, Hct, RBC, WBC and platelet count) and automated differential WBC count] was assigned for the detection of hematocrit, hemoglobin, platelet count, red blood cell count, white blood cell count and white blood cell differential performed using the Sysmex XW-100.

The new code 87634 [Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); respiratory syncytial virus, amplified probe technique] was effective 1/1/2018. HCPCS code 87634QW describes the waived testing previously assigned to the code 87801QW. The HCPCS code for the Alere i System Respiratory Syncytial Virus is now assigned the HCPCS code 87634QW.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, CR10418, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2018Downloads/R3945CP.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
January 5, 2018	Initial article released

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 2016 American Medical Association. All rights reserved.

Copyright © 2017, the American Hospital Association, Chicago, Illinois. Reproduced with permission. No portion of the AHA copyrighted materials contained within this publication may be copied without the express written consent of the AHA. AHA copyrighted materials including the UB-04 codes and descriptions may not be removed, copied, or utilized within any software, product, service, solution or derivative work without the written consent of the AHA. If an entity wishes to utilize any AHA materials, please contact the AHA at 312-893-6816. Making copies or utilizing the content of the UB-04 Manual, including the codes and/or descriptions, for internal purposes, resale and/or to be used in any product or publication; creating any modified or derivative work of the UB-04 Manual and/or codes and descriptions; and/or making any commercial use of UB-04 Manual or any portion thereof,

including the codes and/or descriptions, is only authorized with an express license from the American Hospital Association. To license the electronic data file of UB-04 Data Specifications, contact Tim Carlson at (312) 893-6816 or Laryssa Marshall at (312) 893-6814. You may also contact us at ub04@healthforum.com

The American Hospital Association (the "AHA") has not reviewed, and is not responsible for, the completeness or accuracy of any information contained in this material, nor was the AHA or any of its affiliates, involved in the preparation of this material, or the analysis of information provided in the material. The views and/or positions presented in the material do not necessarily represent the views of the AHA. CMS and its products and services are not endorsed by the AHA or any of its affiliates.