



August 30, 2019

**Re: Precertification and claim submission requirements for
molecular genetic laboratory testing effective December 1, 2019**

Effective for dates of service beginning December 1, 2019, we will require that precertification requests and claim submissions for all molecular genetic laboratory testing include the test name and panel name. Additionally, specific gene names must be identified for targeted panel tests, along with the global test name and applicable Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) codes.

Why we will require this information

Molecular genetic tests can only be distinguished and differentiated by the test name and, in some instances, the specific gene names. Different laboratories also share similar CPT codes, but they may often represent different types of testing. Requiring the correct test, panel, or gene name aligns with our coverage policies, enables us to complete medical necessity reviews, and will ensure accurate reimbursement.

Precertification requests or claims that do not include the test, panel, or gene names when applicable, may be administratively denied. Standard appeal rights will apply for these denials.

Additional information

For your convenience, we have enclosed a fact sheet that includes examples and directions for submitting precertification requests and claims for molecular genetic laboratory testing.

For additional information, please visit our Genetic Testing and Counseling Program website at Cigna.com (Health Care Providers > Provider Resources > Genetic Testing and Counseling Program).

Thank you for the care you provide our customers.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey F. Hankoff, MD
Medical Officer

Enclosure

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At a glance

- We will require the test name or panel name for all precertification requests and claim submissions for molecular genetic laboratory testing.
- Additionally, specific gene names will be required for all targeted panel tests, along with the global test name, and Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) codes.
- These requirements are effective for dates of service beginning December 1, 2019.
- For additional information, go to Cigna.com (Health Care Providers > Provider Resources > Genetic Testing and Counseling Program).

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Precertification and claim submission examples for test, panel, and gene names for molecular genetic laboratory testing

Example 1

Include the *test name or panel name* when submitting multiple CPT codes, or codes that don't align to an individual test:

- CPT codes 81292, 81295, 81298, and 81317: Include the test name, Lynch Syndrome Branded Panel Name*
- CPT codes 81410 and 81411: Include the test name, Marfan/TAAD Seq Del Dup Panel*
- CPT code 81434: Include the test name, Retinal Dystrophy Xpanded (Trio)*
- CPT codes 81413 and 81414: Include the test name, Combined Cardiac Panel*

Example 2

Include the *gene names* when testing with a targeted panel. This is an example of a tumor profiling panel test where a CPT code is provided, but the testing details are unknown because the genes are not listed.

For CPT code 81450, Tumor Profiling Panel - Targeted Genomic Sequence Analysis,* include the name of the five of 50 possible genes to be tested, as follows:

CPT Code 81450 Tumor Profiling Panel - Targeted Genomic Sequence Analysis, gene names: EGFR, BRAF, KIT, NRAS, and TERT**

Note that gene name(s) are not required for submissions where the same genes are always tested for a particular test or panel name. This requirement is for *targeted* panels only.

Precertification requests

Please ensure we receive the branded panel or test name, and gene names when applicable, with your standard submission (see below). This information can be added to your secure fax submission or stated clearly anywhere on your precertification request regardless of the method of submission.

Claim submissions

Please ensure we receive the branded panel or test name, and gene names when applicable (see below) within the current clinical information submitted (clinical notes or stated elsewhere) along with your claim reimbursement request.

Common missing information example

A request for precertification or reimbursement is submitted with only the CPT code(s) and an indication of "genetic testing."

Requests that are missing the test name(s), and in certain instances the gene name(s), cannot be processed. Missing test names appear commonly with Tier 2 CPT codes 81400 through 81408, as well with the unlisted CPT code 81479.

* All test and gene names are for illustrative purposes only. Please submit the specific test name that matches the testing that was performed, including the brand name.

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GENETIC TESTING PRECERTIFICATION REQUEST FORM



Please complete this form in its entirety and fax to 866.873.8279.

Patient information

Patient's name _____	Cigna ID# _____
Patient's address _____	
Date of birth _____	Phone number _____

Requesting health care provider's information

Name _____	
Address _____	City/State _____
Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) _____	National Provider Identifier (NPI) _____
Office contact name _____	
Phone number _____	Fax number _____

Date of service (if applicable) _____	
Laboratory name (if doing institutional billing, please include the name of the performing laboratory) _____	
Address _____	City/State _____
Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) _____	National Provider Identifier (NPI) _____
Diagnosis description _____	
ICD-10 code(s) _____	
Is this a panel test? Yes No (circle one)	
Proprietary test name(s)/gene name(s) _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	
Procedure code(s) _____	

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