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Laboratory Services

This section covers laboratory and pathology services that are covered by Idaho Medicaid. A laboratory is a facility for the biological, microbiological, serological, chemical, immunohematological, hematological, biophysical, cytological, pathological, or other examinations of material derived from the human body for the purpose of providing information for the diagnosis, prevention, or treatment of any disease, or the impairment or assessment of human health. This handbook applies to the following provider types and specialties:

- Hospital Laboratory;
- Independent Laboratory;
- Physician Office Laboratory;
- Reference Laboratory; and
- Skilled Nursing Facility Laboratory.

Sections of the Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook applicable in specific situations are listed throughout the handbook for provider convenience. Handbooks which always apply to this provider type include the following:

- General Billing Instructions;
- General Information and Requirements for Providers; and
- Glossary.

Handbooks can only be used properly in context. Providers must be familiar with the handbooks that affect them and their services. The numbering in handbooks is also important to make note of as subsections rely on the content of the sections above them.

**Example**

Section 1.2.3.a The Answer requires the reader to have also read Section 1, Section 1.2 and Section 1.2.3 to be able to properly apply Section 1.2.3.a.

References are included throughout the handbook for provider and staff convenience. Not all applicable references have been incorporated into the handbook. Not all references provided are equal in weight.

- Case Law: Includes references to court cases that established interpretations of law that states, and providers would be required to follow.
- CMS Guidance: These references reflect various Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) publications that Idaho Medicaid reviewed in the formulation of their policy. The publications themselves are not required to be followed for Idaho Medicaid services.
- Federal Regulations: These references are regulations from the federal level that affected policy development. Usually these include the Code of Federal Regulations, the Social Security Act, and other statutes. They are required to be followed.
- Idaho Medicaid Publications: These are communications from Idaho Medicaid to providers that were required to be followed when published. These are included in the handbook for historical reference. The provider handbook supersedes other communications unless the documents are listed in the Department’s Rules, Statutes, and Policies webpage under policies in Medicaid’s department library.
- Idaho State Plan: The State Plan is the agreement between the State of Idaho and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on how the State will administer its medical assistance program.
Professional Organizations: These references reflect various publications of professional organizations that Idaho Medicaid reviewed in the formulation of their policy. Providers may or may not be required to follow these references, depending on the individual reference and its application to a provider’s licensure and scope of practice.

Scholarly Work: These references are publications that Idaho Medicaid reviewed in the formulation of their policy. The publications themselves are not required to be followed for Idaho Medicaid services.

State Regulations: These references are regulations from the state level that affected policy development. They usually include statute and IDAPA. They are required to be followed.
1. Important Contacts

The Directory, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook contains a comprehensive list of contacts. The following contacts are presented here for provider convenience.

1.1. Gainwell Technologies

Gainwell Technologies is Idaho Medicaid’s fiscal agent that handles all claims processing and customer service issues.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gainwell Technologies Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gainwell Technologies Provider Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 70082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boise, ID 83707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 1 (888) 686-4272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 1 (877) 661-0974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:IDProviderServices@gainwelltechnologies.com">IDProviderServices@gainwelltechnologies.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Medicaid Automated Call Service (MACS) is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Provider service representatives are available Monday through Friday, 7:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M. MT.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 70082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boise, ID 83707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 1 (866) 686-4272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 1 (877) 517-2041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:IDProviderEnrollment@gainwelltechnologies.com">IDProviderEnrollment@gainwelltechnologies.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Technical Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 1 (866) 686-4272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 1 (877) 517-2040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:IDEDISupport@gainwelltechnologies.com">IDEDISupport@gainwelltechnologies.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.2. Provider Relations Consultants

Gainwell Technologies Provider Relations Consultants help keep providers up-to-date on billing changes required by program policy changes implemented by the Division of Medicaid. Provider Relations Consultants accomplish this by:

- Conducting provider workshops;
- Conducting live meetings for training;
- Visiting a provider’s site to conduct training; and
- Assisting providers with electronic claims submission

Region 1 and the state of Washington
1 (208) 202-5735
Region.1@gainwelltechnologies.com

Region 2 and the state of Montana
1 (208) 202-5736
Region.2@gainwelltechnologies.com

Region 3 and the state of Oregon
1 (208) 202-5616
Region.3@gainwelltechnologies.com

Region 4
1 (208) 202-5843
Region.4@gainwelltechnologies.com

Region 5 and the state of Nevada
1 (208) 202-5963
Region.5@gainwelltechnologies.com

Region 6 and the state of Utah
1 (208) 593-7759
Region.6@gainwelltechnologies.com

Region 7 and the state of Wyoming
1 (208) 609-5062
Region.7@gainwelltechnologies.com

Region 9 all other states (not bordering Idaho)
1 (208) 609-5115
Region.9@gainwelltechnologies.com
1.3. Medicaid

The Medical Care Unit is Idaho Medicaid’s team that reviews prior authorizations for some services.

Medical Care Unit
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0009
Phone 1 (866) 205-7403
MedicalCareUnit@dhw.idaho.gov

The status of a prior authorization request submitted to the Medical Care Unit may be checked online at the Gainwell Technologies portal under “Authorization Status”, using your NPI. If you have questions on a Denial, click on the Notes, which will explain the reason for the Denial.
1.4. Telligen, Inc.

Telligen, Inc. is Idaho Medicaid’s quality improvement organization (QIO) that reviews prior authorization requests for most laboratory services as listed on the Numerical Fee Schedule or when a prior authorization would otherwise be indicated.

Telligen
670 E Riverpark Ln. Suite 120
Boise, ID 83706
Phone: 1 (866) 538-9510
E-mail: idmedicaidsupport@telligen.com
2. Provider Qualifications

2.1. Hospital Laboratory

A hospital laboratory is a laboratory located on the campus of a hospital. Hospital laboratories in any state are eligible to participate in the Idaho Medicaid Program. Laboratories must have a National Provider Identification (NPI). They must be licensed in the state where the services are performed, eligible for Medicare certification, and enroll as an Idaho Medicaid provider prior to submitting claims for services. The laboratory must have a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certificate valid for the dates of service on file with Idaho Medicaid. Payments will be denied for any laboratory services not covered by a CLIA certificate or rendered outside the effective dates of their CLIA certificate.

Laboratories are required to have their site credentialed. Should the laboratory have a change of address they must complete and submit a new W9 that reflects the new address, a new provider agreement and proof of the new site being credentialed before billing for services provided at the new location.

Hospital laboratories do not qualify as a reference laboratory or an independent laboratory. Specimens sent from hospital laboratories to an external laboratory for testing must be billed by the external laboratory.

See General Information and Requirements for Providers, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook for more information on enrolling as an Idaho Medicaid provider.

2.1.1. References: Hospital Laboratory

(a) Federal Regulations


(b) **State Regulations**

2.2. Independent Laboratory

An independent laboratory is a laboratory not on a hospital’s campus or affiliated with a physician’s office that receives specimens from a source other than another laboratory. Independent laboratories in any state are eligible to participate in the Idaho Medicaid Program. Laboratories must have a National Provider Identification (NPI). They must be licensed in the state where the services are performed, eligible for Medicare certification, and enroll as an Idaho Medicaid provider prior to submitting claims for services. The laboratory must have a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certificate valid for the dates of service on file with Idaho Medicaid. Payments will be denied for any laboratory services not covered by a CLIA certificate or rendered outside the effective dates of their CLIA certificate.

Laboratories are required to have their site credentialed. Should the laboratory have a change of address they must complete and submit a new W9 that reflects the new address, a new provider agreement and proof of the new site being credentialed before billing for services provided at the new location.

See General Information and Requirements for Providers, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook for more information on enrolling as an Idaho Medicaid provider.

2.2.1. References: Independent Laboratory

(a) Federal Regulations


(b) State Regulations

2.3. **Physician Office Laboratory**

Physicians can bill Medicaid for clinical diagnostic laboratory services they personally performed or supervised in their office. This includes services provided in a Rural Health Clinic. These services do not constitute the services of a hospital, independent or reference laboratory per the definitions for those providers. Physician-owned laboratories may not bill for tests sent to independent or hospital laboratories nor may they send specimens to a reference laboratory.

Physician office laboratories in any state are eligible to participate in the Idaho Medicaid Program. Laboratories must have a National Provider Identification (NPI). They must be licensed in the state where the services are performed, eligible for Medicare certification, and enroll as an Idaho Medicaid provider prior to submitting claims for services. The laboratory must have a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certificate valid for the dates of service on file with Idaho Medicaid or a Certificate of Waiver depending on the tests performed. Payments will be denied for any laboratory services not covered by a CLIA certificate or waiver, or rendered outside the effective dates of their CLIA certificate.

Laboratories with a CLIA certificate are required to have their site credentialed. Should the laboratory have a change of address they must complete and submit a new W9 that reflects the new address, a new provider agreement and proof of the new site being credentialed before billing for services provided at the new location.

See [General Information and Requirements for Providers](#), Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook for more information on enrolling as an Idaho Medicaid provider.

2.3.1. **References: Physician Office Laboratory**

(a) **Federal Regulations**


**(b) State Regulations**

2.4. Reference Laboratory

Reference laboratories are laboratories that only accept specimens from other laboratories. A physician would never be or use a reference laboratory. Laboratories using reference laboratories are responsible for ensuring they meet all Idaho Medicaid requirements including rule, statute, and the Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook.

Reference laboratories in any state are eligible to participate in the Idaho Medicaid Program. Laboratories must have a National Provider Identification (NPI). They must be licensed in the state where the services are performed, eligible for Medicare certification, and enroll as an Idaho Medicaid provider prior to submitting claims for services. The laboratory must have a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certificate valid for the dates of service on file with Idaho Medicaid. Payments will be denied for any laboratory services not covered by a CLIA certificate or rendered outside the effective dates of their CLIA certificate.

Laboratories are required to have their site credentialed. Should the laboratory have a change of address they must complete and submit a new W9 that reflects the new address, a new provider agreement and proof of the new site being credentialed before billing for services provided at the new location.

See General Information and Requirements for Providers, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook for more information on enrolling as an Idaho Medicaid provider.

2.4.1. References: Reference Laboratory

(a) Federal Regulations


(b) State Regulations


2.5. **Skilled Nursing Facility Laboratory**

A skilled nursing facility laboratory is a laboratory located on the campus of a skilled nursing facility. Skilled nursing facility laboratories in any state are eligible to participate in the Idaho Medicaid Program. Laboratories must have a National Provider Identification (NPI). They must be licensed in the state where the services are performed, eligible for Medicare certification, and enroll as an Idaho Medicaid provider prior to submitting claims for services. The laboratory must have a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certificate valid for the dates of service on file with Idaho Medicaid. Payments will be denied for any laboratory services not covered by a CLIA certificate or rendered outside the effective dates of their CLIA certificate.

Laboratories are required to have their site credentialed. Should the laboratory have a change of address they must complete and submit a new W9 that reflects the new address, a new provider agreement and proof of the new site being credentialed before billing for services provided at the new location.

Skilled nursing facility laboratories do not qualify as a reference laboratory or an independent laboratory. Specimens sent from these laboratories to an external laboratory for testing must be billed by the external laboratory.

See [General Information and Requirements for Providers](#), Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook for more information on enrolling as an Idaho Medicaid provider.

### 2.5.1. **References: Skilled Nursing Facility Laboratory**

**Federal Regulations**


(b) **State Regulations**
3. Eligible Participants
Participants with Medicaid Basic and Enhanced Plans are eligible to receive services. When billing for participants enrolled with other eligibility segments, refer to General Information and Requirements for Providers, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook for coverage. Providers must check participant eligibility prior to delivery of the service by calling Idaho Medicaid Automated Customer Service (MACS) at 1 (866) 686-4272; or through the Trading Partner Account on DXC Technology’s Idaho Medicaid website.

3.1. Referrals
A referral from the primary care provider is not necessary for participants enrolled in the Healthy Connections (HC) program, Idaho’s primary care case management (PCCM) model of managed care, to receive laboratory services.

3.2. Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) Services
Services identified for participants under the age of 21 as a result of Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) which correct or ameliorate a defect will not be subject to the existing amount, scope, and duration limitations, and do not require prior authorization if identified on the AAP's periodicity schedule as "should be performed" or "A risk assessment to be performed" as part of a periodic or interperiodic medical screen. All other laboratory tests are subject to prior authorization. The medical necessity for the additional service must be documented. It must be proven safe, effective, and accepted as a medical practice or treatment for the condition being addressed. Additional information for EPSDT may be found in the General Information and Requirements for Providers, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook.
4. Covered Services and Limitations

Laboratory services are a covered benefit of Idaho Medicaid when performed in compliance with CLIA requirements. Coverage is limited to medically necessary diagnostic testing and some select screening services discussed in this section. Coverage is not available for deceased participants including postmortem examinations. Diagnostic tests are laboratory services used in the presence of signs or symptoms that have results leading to treatment services, which control, correct, or ameliorate health problems. Screening services are those tests made in the absence of signs or symptoms.

Screening services generally are not covered by Idaho Medicaid due to statutory requirements for medical necessity. The Affordable Care Act requires certain screening services be required including services with an "A" or "B" recommendation from the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) and other standards as adopted by the Department. The Department has also adopted the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Bright Futures periodicity schedule, and the Health Resources and Services Administration’s Women’s Preventive Services Guidelines. Any screening services outside these three organizations’ applicable recommendations must be explicitly communicated by the Department as covered in order to be eligible for reimbursement. Additional information on screening services is available under the Medical Necessity section in the General Information and Requirements for Providers, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook.

The laboratory is responsible for ensuring all services are medically necessary and criteria are followed. Testing for sports participation, camp attendance, employment, driving licensure, admission to an educational institution, military recruitment, insurance coverage, paternity determination, adoption, immigration, probation, or marriage are not considered medically necessary and are not covered by Idaho Medicaid. Laboratory services are also not considered medically necessary, are non-covered and not eligible for reimbursement with any of the following:

- Testing is not considered standard of care, such as when the clinical diagnosis can be made without the use of a genetic or other laboratory test;
- Testing is not clinically appropriate for the participant’s condition;
- Testing is for family planning;
- Testing is only for genetic counseling; or
- The results of a test would not impact medical decision making or change a participant’s treatment plan.

An example of ICD-10 diagnoses that would indicate to a laboratory that a test is not medically necessary include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICD-10-CM</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Z02.0</td>
<td>Encounter for examination for admission to educational institution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z02.1</td>
<td>Encounter for pre-employment examination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z02.2</td>
<td>Encounter for examination for admission to residential institution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z02.3</td>
<td>Encounter for examination for recruitment to armed forces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z02.4</td>
<td>Encounter for examination for driving license</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z02.5</td>
<td>Encounter for examination for participation in sport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z02.6</td>
<td>Encounter for examination for insurance purposes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z02.81</td>
<td>Encounter for paternity testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z02.82</td>
<td>Encounter for adoption services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z02.89</td>
<td>Encounter for other administrative examinations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Non-medically Necessary ICD-10-CM Diagnoses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICD-10-CM</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Z04.8</td>
<td>Encounter for examination and observation for other specified reasons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Services that are not medically necessary or non-covered may not be billed to the participant unless the requirements in the Participant Financial Responsibility section of the General Information and Requirements for Providers, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook are followed.

All laboratory services require a physician or non-physician practitioner’s order. Blanket, reflexive or standing orders do not meet the requirement for an order. A blanket order is considered any order that is not specific to the participant, such as orders a provider establishes for all patients under their care. If a clinical diagnostic test order does not require a signature, there must be signed medical documentation such as a progress note by the treating physician or non-physician practitioner. Some laboratory procedures may require a prior authorization, refer to the Numerical Fee Schedule for CPT® codes that always require a prior authorization, and the reviewing authority.

4.1.1. References: Covered Services and Limitations

(a) CMS Guidance

(b) Federal Regulations


(c) Idaho Medicaid Publications

"Idaho Medicaid Covers Screening Services per the Affordable Care Act and USPSTF Recommendations.” MedicAide Newsletter, October 2018,


(d) **State Regulations**

4.2. **Cervical Cancer Screening**

See the [Physician and Non-Physician Practitioner](#), Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook for coverage.
4.3. Controlled Substance and Drug Testing

Drug testing is an important part of treatment for substance use disorder (SUD) and chronic pain. Drug testing can be used to assess for adherence, persistent substance use, and diversion. However, its effectiveness and impact on patient-important outcomes such as addiction, overdose, and death have not been delineated. Although the ideal frequency of drug testing in situations of chronic pain and SUD treatment is unclear, different guidelines suggest at least eight times per year for SUD treatment (with more frequent testing being typical) and at least baseline and as needed testing for chronic pain treatment.

This controlled substance and drug testing section applies to urine drug testing, drug testing of oral fluids or hair, testing for substance use disorder treatment or monitoring of chronic pain management, whether billed through Idaho Medicaid fee-for-service programs or the Idaho Behavioral Health Plan administered by OPTUM. It does not apply to breathalyzer testing for alcohol.

Idaho Medicaid reimburses presumptive and confirmatory drug testing when medically necessary (such as in the determination of altered mental status or possible overdose, substance use treatment, and chronic pain treatment). Drug testing is not covered as part of routine physicals or for participation in sports, legal, criminal justice, employment, or administrative purposes. However, tests that meet the coverage requirements of this policy may be used additionally for other purposes. Blanket orders and orders specifying that both presumptive and confirmatory testing will be performed simultaneously are not allowed. A blanket order is considered any order that is not specific to the participant, such as orders a provider establishes for all patients under their care. Drug testing is also subject to the following limitations:

- Tests for specimen validity are included in the reimbursement for the test.
- To be reimbursable, drug tests must be ordered by a licensed or certified healthcare professional who:
  - Has performed a face-to-face evaluation of the participant (this may include telehealth if the requirements of the telehealth policy are met);
  - Is treating the participant for the condition the test is being ordered for; and
  - Is enrolled with Idaho Medicaid and/or the IBHP.
- Claims for tests ordered by non-enrolled persons or entities (e.g., non-enrolled recovery support staff, law enforcement personnel, probation, and parole officers, etc.) will be denied and/or are subject to recoupment action. Tests ordered by a healthcare professional on behalf of law enforcement personnel, probation, and parole officers, etc. are also not covered.

Presumptive (or qualitative) testing is immunoassay-based and is the most inexpensive form of drug testing. This type of testing can be performed in a laboratory or via a point-of-care test in the office. Immunoassays have a significant false positive rate, especially for certain substances; however, they are typically sufficient for routine drug testing. Idaho Medicaid will reimburse up to 24 presumptive (qualitative) drug tests per calendar year without a prior authorization when they meet the requirements of this section.

Confirmatory (or quantitative) tests, analyzed via liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry (LCMS/MS) or gas chromatography mass spectrometry (GC-MS), are significantly more expensive. These tests should be reserved for situations when the result of a presumptive test is disputed by the participant or the drug of concern cannot be tested for via immunoassay. The majority of drug tests conducted should be presumptive, with only a fraction of those being confirmatory tests. Idaho Medicaid will reimburse up to 12 confirmatory drug tests per calendar year without a prior authorization. Claims for confirmatory testing
performed in the absence of a positive result on a presumptive test or documented need for testing beyond what a presumptive test can provide, will be denied and/or subject to recoupment. Coverage of confirmatory tests only includes panels up to a maximum of 14 classes at a time or unique tests for specific substances; whether a panel or an individual test, each test would count toward the cap of 12 confirmatory tests per calendar year. Testing for more than 14 classes at a time is not considered medically necessary and is not reimbursable.

The testing limits for presumptive and confirmatory tests are inclusive of tests ordered through the IBHP (e.g., point-of-care, in-office, CLIA-waived, presumptive tests done in the behavioral health provider’s office) or fee-for-service Medicaid claims reimbursed through Gainwell Technologies. The IBHP and Medicaid will both have separate system limits. Providers should be aware that although they can theoretically bill the maximum limitation for each test in each system (i.e., IBHP and fee-for-service Medicaid), this would be a violation of coverage requirements and could be subject to recoupment action and investigation by the Medicaid Program Integrity Unit.

Providers can apply for additional drug tests if medically necessary (beyond the pre-approved 24 qualitative tests and 12 quantitative tests) using the prior authorization process. Prior authorizations should be requested from OPTUM or the Medical Care Unit as appropriate, but not both. An example of an appropriate prior authorization request, would be for a participant experiencing multiple relapses in a calendar year requiring multiple episodes of restarting treatment. An example of inappropriate requests for prior authorization, would be additional testing being required by probation and parole requirements. The prior authorization process may include a retroactive review of drug testing services provided to the participant to ensure services were medically necessary before authorizing additional units. Paid claims failing to meet the criteria for coverage will be recouped. Blanket prior authorization requests will be denied.

Idaho Medicaid uses coding for drug testing that reports the number of drug classes tested. CPT® or HCPCS codes representing individual drug tests are not covered by Idaho Medicaid. Services should be billed using the correlating code below that best matches the testing performed. Only one quantitative code and one qualitative code may be billed per date of service. Only the codes listed below are eligible for reimbursement:

Presumptive (qualitative) test codes (reimbursed by fee-for-service Medicaid and Optum):
  - CPT 80305: Drug tests(s), presumptive, any number of drug classes; any number of devices or procedures, (e.g., immunoassay) capable of being read by direct optical observation only (e.g., dipsticks, cups, cards, cartridges), includes sample validation when performed, per date of service.
  - CPT 80306: Drug tests(s), presumptive, any number of drug classes; any number of devices or procedures, (e.g., immunoassay) read by instrument-assisted direct optical observation (e.g., dipsticks, cups, cards, cartridges), includes sample validation when performed, per date of service.
  - CPT 80307: Drug test(s), presumptive, any number of drug classes, any number of devices or procedures; by instrument chemistry analyzers (e.g., utilizing immunoassay [e.g., EIA, ELISA, EMIT, FPIA, IA, KIMS, RIA]), chromatography (e.g., GC, HPLC), and mass spectrometry either with or without chromatography, (e.g., DART, DESI, GCMS, GC-MS/MS, LC-MS, LC-MS/MS, LDT D, MALDI, T OF) includes sample validation when performed, per date of service.

Confirmatory (quantitative) test codes (reimbursed by fee-for-service Medicaid):
  - G0480: Drug test(s), definitive, utilizing drug identification methods able to identify individual drugs and distinguish between structural isomers (but not necessarily
stereoisomers), including, but not limited to GC/MS (any type, single or tandem) and LC/MS (any type, single or tandem and excluding immunoassays (e.g., IA, EIA, ELISA, EMIT, FPIA) and enzymatic methods (e.g., alcohol dehydrogenase)); qualitative or quantitative, all sources, includes specimen validity testing, per day, 1-7 drug class(es), including metabolite(s) if performed.

- G0481: Drug test(s), definitive, utilizing drug identification methods able to identify individual drugs and distinguish between structural isomers (but not necessarily stereoisomers), including, but not limited to GC/MS (any type, single or tandem) and LC/MS (any type, single or tandem and excluding immunoassays (e.g., IA, EIA, ELISA, EMIT, FPIA) and enzymatic methods (e.g., alcohol dehydrogenase)); qualitative or quantitative, all sources, includes specimen validity testing, per day, 8-14 drug class(es), including metabolite(s) if performed.

- G0659: Drug test(s), definitive, utilizing drug identification methods able to identify individual drugs and distinguish between structural isomers (but not necessarily stereoisomers), including but not limited to, GC/MS (any type, single or tandem) and LC/MS (any type, single or tandem), excluding immunoassays (e.g., IA, EIA, ELISA, EMIT, FPIA) and enzymatic methods (e.g., alcohol dehydrogenase), performed without method or drug-specific calibration, without matrix-matched quality control material, or without use of stable isotope or other universally recognized internal standard(s) for each drug, drug metabolite or drug class per specimen; qualitative or quantitative, all sources, includes specimen validity testing, per day, any number of drug classes.

4.3.1. Drug Testing for 15 or More Classes

Drug testing for more than 14 classes, including HCPCS G0482 and G0483, are non-covered. If 15 or more classes are tested, then the provider may bill the code that represents the number that is medically necessary and compliant with this policy. For example, if a provider is testing 18 drug classes, and 14 drug classes are medical necessary and meet the other requirements for coverage, then the provider can bill G0481 for testing the 14 classes. Providers should ensure if they opt for this option that they don’t engage in balance billing of the covered services to the participant. Providers should also not bill another entity that traditionally would not be liable for services after Medicaid provided reimbursement, which would result in the provider receiving double payment from various State of Idaho agencies.

The Department understands that there may be rare individual circumstances that this policy cannot predict. If 15 or more classes are medically necessary for testing, then the provider may submit a claim for denial and follow the process detailed in the Claim Reconsideration and Appeals section of the General Billing Instructions, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook. Providers must attach clinical documentation to their request showing why the number of drug classes was necessary. Additionally, a letter of medical necessity addressing why each tested class is necessary is suggested, but not required. The exceptions process does not allow for coverage of testing in situations prohibited by this policy. For example, the exceptions process will not approve reimbursement for testing provided for criminal justice purposes. It will only allow coverage for those situations that are medically warranted and would affect treatment decisions.
4.3.2. References: Controlled Substance and Drug Testing

(a) CMS Guidance


(b) Federal Regulations


(c) Idaho Medicaid Publications


“Drug Testing and Specimen Validity Testing Billed in Combination: Medicare Correct Coding, Diagnostic, Clinical Guidelines and Limits Apply to Medicaid. As of July 1, 2018, G0659 is Covered by Idaho Medicaid.” MedicAide Newsletter, June 2018,


(d) Scholarly Works


(e) State Regulations

4.4. COVID-19 Testing
Idaho Medicaid covers all medically necessary and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) recommended testing for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. Covered services for testing for SARS-CoV-2 includes molecular, rapid antigen and serologic (antibody) tests. An individualized test result for either diagnostic and/or screening services must be obtained to support a claim for reimbursement. Providers should educate participants on symptoms and prevention of COVID-19 when ordering testing. At a minimum, prevention education should include a discussion of the importance and correct use of masks or face coverings, social distancing, hand washing, quarantine and isolation, and the benefits of immunizations for the prevention of COVID-19.

Per the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act), pharmacists can order and administer tests for SARS-CoV-2. If a pharmacist collects a specimen and sends it to a laboratory or other healthcare entity for processing, the receiving laboratory or healthcare entity must be enrolled in Idaho Medicaid and must bill the service directly.

4.4.1. References: COVID-19 Testing
(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications

4.4.2. Molecular Testing for SARS-CoV-2
Molecular testing demonstrating the presence of viral RNA is the only way to definitively diagnose an active infection with SARS-CoV-2. These tests may detect the virus 1–2 days before symptoms occur and for a short period after symptoms cease. If clinical suspicion for COVID-19 remains high, self-isolation should be recommended regardless of test result. Molecular testing cannot determine if a person has recovered from a previous infection with the virus. Molecular tests available on the market include:

- Rapid molecular testing at the point of care for results within minutes (up to 4-5 per hour);
- High-throughput platforms that process large numbers of tests within hours (up to 2,000 per day);
- Out-of-state laboratories with capabilities similar to high-throughput platforms with turnarounds in 2–4 days.

Molecular tests for SARS-CoV2 are limited to a total of four (4) tests per participant per month. If additional tests are needed, providers can submit a prior authorization request form to Telligen at https://idmedicaid.telligen.com.

4.4.3. References: Molecular Testing for SARS-CoV-2
(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications
4.4.4. Rapid Antigen Testing for SARS-CoV-2

Rapid antigen testing is less complex than molecular testing methods and can generally provide results in fifteen to thirty minutes. Rapid antigen tests are available as self-administered at home tests and can be great tools for determining if a mild symptom such as congestion is likely to be COVID-19 before an individual goes to a space where they may be in contact with others (e.g. school, work, or a family gathering). However, these tests are less sensitive than molecular tests and require much more virus in the sample to be detected. These tests may not be effective five days after the onset of symptoms or for those that are asymptomatic. It is recommended that those with a negative result and a high degree of suspicion for infection be tested a second time with a molecular test and be told to isolate while awaiting the results of the follow-up test.

At home rapid antigen tests require a prescription from a physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or pharmacist and should be billed to Idaho Medicaid at the pharmacy at the point-of-sale.

Rapid Antigen tests for SARS-CoV2 are limited to a total of four (4) tests per participant per month. If additional tests are needed, providers can submit a prior authorization request form to Telligen at https://idmedicaid.telligen.com.

4.4.5. References: Rapid Antigen Testing for SARS-CoV-2

(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications


4.4.6. Coverage of Serologic Testing for SARS-CoV-2

Serologic testing looks for previous infection with the virus, by detecting the presence of antibodies that bind to viral proteins. The extent to which antibodies to SARS-CoV2 confer immunity to reinfection is unclear. Given the high risk of false positive COVID-19 antibody tests, a second test should be performed to confirm the positive result in addition to assessment of other relevant information, such as clinical history or diagnostic test results. Serologic tests should not be used for diagnosing acute infection, for determining the need for quarantine after exposure or for assessing immunity following COVID-19 vaccination. Serologic testing has limited clinical applicability and is not recommended by the CDC or by the State of Idaho's Testing Task Force for use in directing patient care.

Serologic testing is limited to twice (2) per year without a prior authorization. If additional tests are needed, providers can submit a prior authorization request form to Telligen at https://idmedicaid.telligen.com.

4.4.7. References: Coverage of Serologic Testing for SARS-CoV-2

(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications

4.5. **Fertility Testing**
Laboratory services for the testing of infertility or fertility are non-covered. This includes services related to surrogate motherhood.

4.5.1. **References: Fertility Testing**

(a) **State Regulations**

4.6. General Health Panel
Idaho Medicaid considers CPT® 80050 (General Health Panel) to not be medically necessary. This service is non-covered. Providers may still bill individual tests with medical necessity established for each.

4.6.1. References: General Health Panel

(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications
4.7. Genetic Testing

This section applies to all genetic testing coverage including those otherwise specified in this handbook. Genetic testing is a covered benefit under Idaho Medicaid when it meets the criteria of this section and any test specific criteria established by the Department or Telligen. Tests must at a minimum meet the following criteria to be covered:

- Tests must be ordered by a physician or non-physician practitioner;
- Be used to diagnose a clinical symptom displayed by the participant, which is indicative of a genetic condition, or provide a differential diagnosis when one of the possible diagnoses is genetic in nature;
- The results of the test will affect changes to health monitoring, or the treatment provided. If potential treatments that would be applicable to the results of the testing are non-covered, then so is the testing;
- The test utilized must be considered scientifically valid for the identification of a specific genetically linked inheritable disease to the condition being tested for as evidenced by peer-reviewed literature;
- The chance of the genetic abnormality being tested for must be greater than 10% for coverage; and
- Genetic counseling must be provided to the participant before and after testing.

Providers must consult with the participant to determine if they have been previously tested. Genetic tests should not be duplicated unless there is uncertainty about the validity of the existing test result, such as the participant’s clinical presentation is inconsistent with the previous test results or the test methodologies have changed and may yield different results that could affect care management.

The following types of genetic testing are not covered by Idaho Medicaid:

- Tests performed for screening purposes only, in the absence of signs, symptoms, or personal history of disease or injury;
- Tests that are done solely to diagnose a patient, and will not impact medical decision-making for the patient or the patient’s treatment plan;
- Tests for conditions and diseases which are symptomatically treated;
- Tests done to confirm a diagnosis;
- Tests done for informational purposes only;
- Tests on people other than the participant;
- Tests for paternity;
- Tests for legal reasons; or
- Tests performed for the purposes of genetic counseling or family planning.

4.7.1. References: Genetic Testing

(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications


(b) Professional Organizations


4.7.2. Genetic Counseling

Genetic counseling provides participants with the ability to make informed decisions about their healthcare. Participants should be made aware of the benefits, risks, limitations, and potential consequences of genetic testing. This also involves:

- A review of individual and family medical histories to determine genetic risk for medical conditions and diseases;
- Discussion of the features, means of diagnosis, genetic and environmental factors, and management of risk for genetic medical conditions and diseases;
- Communicating test results and the risk of a genetic condition or disease in the context of personal and family medical histories; and
- The clinical implications of conducting a test.

Genetic counseling must be provided by one of the following:

- A genetic counselor with a master’s degree specifically in genetic counseling or related field, who is certified by the American Board of Genetic Counseling (ABGC) or American Board of Medical Genetics (ABMG).
- A physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant with the appropriate expertise and training about inherited conditions, risks for disease, testing implications for health management, and interpreting findings of genetic tests.
- A pharmacist with ASHP pharmacogenetic certification.

Genetic counseling if provided by the laboratory or hospital is bundled for reimbursement in the cost of the laboratory test. Physicians and physician assistants may bill CPT® 96040 for their services. Genetic counseling is limited to 4 units per month without a prior authorization.

4.7.3. References: Genetic Counseling

(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications


(b) State Regulations


4.7.4. **Genetic Testing for Alzheimer Disease**

Testing for apolipoprotein E (APOE) (CPT® 81401) to determine the risk of Alzheimer Disease is non-covered. The presence of the allele is not alone enough to determine the risk of the disease and has poor predictive value and limited clinical use.

4.7.5. **References: Genetic Testing for Alzheimer Disease**

**(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications**


**(b) Professional Organizations**

4.7.6. Genetic Testing for Pharmacogenetics

Pharmacogenomics is genetic testing that identifies variations in an individual’s genetic makeup to determine if a drug is suitable for a participant, and what dose would be safe and effective. The drug must be covered for the participant for the pharmacogenetic testing to be a covered service, and, in addition the general genetic testing requirements, one of the following conditions must be met:
- Testing is required or recommended by the drug prescribing information; or
- A drug trial would be contra-indicated without genetic testing results known ahead of time.

Tests for the selection of medications or determination of dosage to treat mental health disorders such as depression are non-covered due to being experimental/investigational unless required by the prescribing information for a covered drug.

CPT®

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<tr>
<th>CPT®</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>81225</td>
<td>CYP2C19 (cytochrome P450, family 2, subfamily C, polypeptide 19) (e.g., drug metabolism), gene analysis, common variants (e.g., *2, *3, *4, *8, *17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81227</td>
<td>CYP2C9 (cytochrome P450, family 2, subfamily C, polypeptide 9) (e.g., drug metabolism), gene analysis, common variants (e.g., *2, *3, *5, *6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81291</td>
<td>MTHFR (5,10-methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase) (e.g., hereditary hypercoagulability) gene analysis, common variants (e.g., 677T, 1298C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81355</td>
<td>VKORC1 (vitamin K epoxide reductase complex, subunit 1) (e.g., warfarin metabolism), gene analysis, common variant(s) (e.g., -1639G&gt;A, c.173+1000G&gt;T)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81401</td>
<td>Molecular pathology procedure, Level 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81479</td>
<td>Unlisted molecular pathology procedure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.7.7. References: Genetic Testing for Pharmacogenetics

(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications

4.7.8. Genetic Testing for Hemochromatosis
In addition to Telligen’s criteria for testing hereditary hemochromatosis using the HFE gene (CPT® 81256), tests should only be performed on participants with iron overload (e.g., elevated fasting transferrin saturation >45%) or participants with a family history of HFE-associated hereditary hemochromatosis.

4.7.9. References: Genetic Testing for Hemochromatosis

(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications

(b) Professional Organizations
4.7.10. Genetic Testing for Hyperbilirubinemia
Idaho Medicaid considers genotyping of SLCO1B1 and UGT1A1 experimental and investigational for assessing risk of neonatal hyperbilirubinemia.

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<tr>
<th>CPT®</th>
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<tr>
<td>81328</td>
<td>SLCO1B1 (solute carrier organic anion transporter family, member 1B1) (e.g., adverse drug reaction), gene analysis, common variant(s) (e.g., *5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81350</td>
<td>UGT1A1 (UDP glucuronosyltransferase 1 family, polypeptide A1) (e.g., drug metabolism, hereditary unconjugated hyperbilirubinemia [Gilbert syndrome]) gene analysis, common variants (e.g., *28, *36, *37)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.7.11. References: Genetic Testing for Hyperbilirubinemia

(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications

4.7.12. Genetic Testing for Mental Health Disorders

Genetic Testing for mental health disorder is considered experimental and investigational, such as Genecept Assay, STA²R, the GeneSight Psychotropic panel, the Proove Opioid Risk assay and the Mental Health DNA Insight panel. Testing is non-covered for all situations including, but not limited to:

- Confirming diagnosis of a mental health disorder;
- Predicting risk of future development of a mental health disorder; or
- Selecting or determining the dosage of medications to treat mental health disorders.

4.7.13. References: Genetic Testing for Mental Health Disorders

(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications


In addition to Telligen’s criteria for testing for methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase (MTHFR) (CPT® 81291), testing to determine the risk of thromboembolism is non-covered. The gene variants are common in the general population and meta-analyses have disproven any association.

4.7.15. References: Genetic Testing for Thrombophilia

(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications


(b) Professional Organizations

4.7.16. **Molecular Pathology for Infants**
CPT® codes 81329, 81403, 81406 and 81479 are allowed without a prior authorization for newborns from birth to 120 days of life when billed with the EP modifier.

4.7.17. **References: Molecular Pathology for Infants**

(a) **Idaho Medicaid Publications**
“Molecular Pathology for Infants.” MedicAide Newsletter, June 2023,
4.8. Home Monitoring of Anticoagulant Therapy

Home International Normalization Ratio (INR) monitoring may be covered for participants taking oral anticoagulants if the following criteria is met:

- The participant has either mechanical heart valves, chronic atrial fibrillation or venous thromboembolism;
- The participant has been anticoagulated before beginning home monitoring for at least three months;
- The participant received face-to-face education from their treating provider on anticoagulation management and was able to demonstrate proper use of the device;
- The participant will only be self-testing once a week, unless they live in an area where it would be unreasonable to obtain testing in the office more frequently.

The treating physician or non-physician practitioner must also order the home monitoring supplies for these conditions. When providing test materials and equipment under CPT® 93792, providers should bill HCPCS G0249 instead of 99070. Idaho Medicaid will not provide reimbursement for 99070 under these circumstances.

4.8.1. References: Home Monitoring of Anticoagulant Therapy

(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications

4.9. Lead Screening

The Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) reimburses providers for lead testing (CPT® 83655) performed by a venous blood draw or by capillary test (CPT® 36416). Screening for lead poisoning is a required component of an Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment screening. All Medicaid eligible children are required to be screened at 12 months and 24 months of age. Children between the ages of 24 months and 21 years of age, should receive a screening blood lead test if there is no record of a previous test. Coverage is also available for children requiring lead screening to enter the head start program.

Providers are required to report lead poisoning to the Department of Health and Welfare, Office of Epidemiology and Food Protection or local health district within three (3) working days. Lead poisoning may be diagnosed by symptoms, or a blood level of:

a. Ten (10) micrograms or more per deciliter (10 ug/dL) in adults eighteen (18) years and older; or
b. Five (5) micrograms or more per deciliter (5 ug/dL) in children under eighteen (18) years of age.

Elevated blood lead levels have been linked to developmental disabilities and other serious conditions in children including reduced IQ, hyperactivity, nervous system, and kidney damage. Providers diagnosing lead poisoning, in addition to their reporting requirement, should:

- Educate the participant, their parent or guardian, as applicable, about the hazards of lead poisoning;
- Evaluate the participant for complications from lead poisoning;
- Perform follow-up blood lead analyses everyone to two-month intervals until the blood lead level remains below the threshold for lead poisoning for at least six months and the source of the lead has been removed. Then continue analyses at three-month intervals until the participant is 36 months of age. If the participant receives additional lead-hazard exposure, then monitoring should return to a monthly or bi-monthly frequency;
- Refer the family to the local health district for more information; and
- Perform chelation therapy, if appropriate.

Claims should be submitted with a diagnosis reflecting a wellness visit. DHW will provide a Lead Care Analyzer machine to providers at no cost. This machine tests for lead by a simple capillary test (finger prick). The results are available immediately. Machines may be requested by completing the “Lead Care Analyzer Provider Agreement” form and submitting it by mail, fax or e-mail to:

Lead Screening Program
Division of Medicaid
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0036
Fax: (208) 332-7280
MedicalCareUnit@dhw.idaho.gov

Please contact the Medical Care Unit at 1 (208) 364-1835 or visit the website Idaho’s Medicaid Lead Program, for more information on lead screening.
4.9.1. References: Blood Lead Screening

(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications


(b) State Regulations


4.10. Newborn Screening

Newborn screening kits are a covered benefit of the Idaho Medicaid Program. Newborn screening is required by law to consist of two screening tests. Preferably the tests should be done once within 24-48 hours of birth and again at 10 to 14-days of age. Idaho Medicaid provides coverage for the screening under HCPCS S3620 (Newborn metabolic screening panel, includes test kit, postage and the laboratory tests specified by the state for inclusion). Follow-up testing for participants diagnosed with one of the 50 screened conditions can be done in a laboratory.

Providers, who performed the initial test after birth that will not be performing the additional tests in the kit at a later date, must give the additional tests to the participant's parent or guardian for their use with another provider. Idaho Medicaid does not reimburse for the cost of tests when the provider:

- Loses or misplaces the test;
- Contaminates or damages the test; or
- Neglects to give the second test to the family.

S3620 represents kits with 2-3 tests. S3620 can be billed with modifier UC for a single-test kit. Single-test kits are appropriate when:

- The initially performing provider will not perform the additional tests in the kit and neglected to give them to the family for their follow-up appointment;
- The provider didn’t perform the first test, is performing the second test, and the participant does not have access to the second test strip; or
- A two-test kit was used initially, but the infant later transferred to the NICU.

Providers shall only bill one unit per test kit per newborn. The collection of blood for the first and second part of the screening is reimbursable under the appropriate venipuncture CPT® code.

Test kits are ordered through the Idaho Newborn Screening Program and must be purchased in advance from this program provider:

Idaho Newborn Screening Program  
450 West State Street, 4th floor  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0036  
1 (208) 334-5962

https://www.accessidaho.org/ai/payport/online/hw_newborn/index.html

4.10.1. References: Newborn Screening

(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications

https://www.idmedicaid.com/MedicAide%20Newsletters/August%202019%20MedicAide.pdf.

Newborn Care Providers, Information Release MA02-21 (2002). Division of Medicaid,  
https://www.idmedicaid.com/MedicAide%20Newsletters/August%202019%20Medicaide.pdf.

(b) **State Regulations**

IDAPA 16.02.12, "Newborn Screening." Department of Administration, State of Idaho, 
4.11. Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing

Based on recommendations from the Society for Maternal Fetal Medicine (SMFM) to decrease the need for multiple visits/tests during the COVID-19 public health emergency, Idaho Medicaid is implementing temporary coverage of noninvasive prenatal testing (NIPT) for fetal aneuploidy screening, effective 5/01/2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CPT®</th>
<th>Procedure Code Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>81507</td>
<td>Fetal aneuploidy (trisomy 21, 18, and 13) DNA sequence analysis of selected regions using maternal plasma, algorithm reported as a risk score for each trisomy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81420</td>
<td>Fetal chromosomal aneuploidy (e.g., trisomy 21, monosomy X) genomic sequence analysis panel, circulating cell-free fetal DNA in maternal blood</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.11.1. References: Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing

4.12. Papanicolaou Testing
The Papanicolaou test or pap smear is a covered benefit of Idaho Medicaid. See the Cervical Cancer Screening section of the Physician and Non-Physician Practitioner, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook for criteria and coverage requirements.
4.13. **Pregnancy Testing**

Pregnancy testing (CPT® 81025) is a covered benefit of Idaho Medicaid. Testing is covered at a maximum of twice per month when medically necessary without a prior authorization. Testing is only covered if the participant suspects they are pregnant, or the test would have an impact on the participant’s treatment.

4.13.1. **References: Pregnancy Testing**

(a) **Idaho Medicaid Publications**

4.14. Proprietary Laboratory Analyses

Services represented by Proprietary Laboratory Analyses (PLA) codes do not usually meet the requirement of medical necessity for standard of care or are considered experimental/investigational. PLA codes are for used for laboratory tests provided by a single source or licensed to other laboratories for processing. Unless specifically stated in the CPT® manual PLA codes do not meet the standards for Category I codes. They are only required to be commercially available in the United States for use on human specimens and be requested by the laboratory or manufacturer. Laboratory tests represented by a PLA that do not meet the requirements to be a Category I CPT code are not covered and cannot be billed with an unspecified code.

4.14.1. References: Proprietary Laboratory Analyses

(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications

4.15. **Refugee Screening**

Tests performed as a result of examinations for refugee immigration are covered when medically necessary. The Department considers tests recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to be medically necessary. Tests meeting these criteria should be billed with diagnosis Z02.89 (Encounter for other administrative examinations) and modifier U7.

4.15.1. **References: Refugee Screening**

(a) **Federal Regulations**


(b) **Idaho Medicaid Publications**


(c) **Professional Organizations**


(d) **State Regulations**

4.16. Specimen Collection and Handling

Collection for specimens drawn by venipuncture or catheterization are payable only to the physician, non-physician practitioner or laboratory who draws the specimen. If done during an office visit on the same day the service is ordered, specimen collection may be reimbursed even if prior authorization of a test requiring one is not approved.

An office visit cannot be billed when a participant comes in for a blood draw by a lab technician and does not see the physician or non-physician practitioner. The lab technician’s cost is included in the lab procedure payment.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>CPT®</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36400</td>
<td>Venipuncture, younger than age 3 years, necessitating the skill of a physician or other qualified health care professional, not to be used for routine venipuncture; femoral or jugular vein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36405</td>
<td>Venipuncture, younger than age 3 years, necessitating the skill of a physician or other qualified health care professional, not to be used for routine venipuncture; scalp vein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36406</td>
<td>Venipuncture, younger than age 3 years, necessitating the skill of a physician or other qualified health care professional, not to be used for routine venipuncture; other vein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36410</td>
<td>Venipuncture, age 3 years or older, necessitating the skill of a physician or other qualified health care professional (separate procedure), for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes (not to be used for routine venipuncture)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36415</td>
<td>Collection of venous blood by venipuncture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36416</td>
<td>Collection of capillary blood specimen (e.g., finger, heel, ear stick)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36420</td>
<td>Venipuncture, cutdown; younger than age 1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36425</td>
<td>Venipuncture, cutdown; age 1 or over</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36591</td>
<td>Collection of blood specimen from a completely implantable venous access device</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36592</td>
<td>Collection of blood specimen using established central or peripheral catheter, venous, not otherwise specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99001</td>
<td>Handling and/or conveyance of specimen for transfer from the patient in other than an office to a laboratory (distance may be indicated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P9612</td>
<td>Catheterization for collection of specimen, single patient, all places of service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Department does not recognize or reimburse for S9529 or G0471. These services are best represented by other codes. In the event that multiple venipuncture types occur on the same day by the same provider, reimbursement for CPT® 36416 is bundled into 36415, and CPT® 36591 is bundled into 36592.

Handling and conveyance of specimens for transfer to a laboratory from place of service 12 (Home), 25 (Birthing Center) or 32 (Nursing Facility) are covered by Medicaid when billed with CPT® 99001. All other handling and conveyance charges such as 99000 are bundled into reimbursement for the care and management of the participant.
4.16.1. References: Specimen Collection

(a) State Regulations

5. Quality Assurance

Laboratories, as a condition of payment, must maintain a quality-control program, including proficiency testing consistent with federal requirements. Quality control must include a day-to-day analysis of reference materials to ensure reproducibility and accuracy of laboratory results, and includes an acceptable system to assure proper functioning of instruments, equipment, and reagents. Personnel carrying out testing must have the appropriate qualifications and supervision as established by the Secretary for Health and Human Services. Proficiency testing must include an evaluation of a laboratory's ability to perform laboratory procedures within acceptable limits of accuracy through analysis of unknown specimens distributed at periodic intervals. The laboratory must provide the results of proficiency testing to the Department or Telligen upon request.

5.1.1. References: Quality Assurance

(a) Federal Regulations


(b) State Regulations


6. Prior Authorizations

A prior authorization (PA) is a written, faxed, or electronic approval from the Department or its designee that permits payment or coverage of an item or service that is only covered by such an authorization. Some items and services always require a PA, but others may only require a PA under these circumstances:

- The participant has exhausted their benefit;
- The participant does not meet the established criteria, but can demonstrate a medical need; or
- The participant has an alternative benefit such as EPSDT or waiver that can only be accessed through a prior authorization.

Items and services that require a PA must receive approval before they can be delivered to the participant except as otherwise noted. It is the provider’s responsibility to verify the participant’s eligibility on the date of service and to request any required PA. PA requirements specific to a service or item are listed throughout the handbook for the provider’s convenience. For information regarding if a prior authorization is required, providers can:

- Check participant eligibility and PA requirements through your Trading Partner Account at www.idmedicaid.com; and
- Check the Idaho Medicaid Numerical Fee Schedule available online for items that always require a PA and the authorizing entity.

Participants with Medicare as their primary insurance do not require a PA from Idaho Medicaid for Medicare approved items and services. Participants with a different primary payor, or a participant with Medicare receiving services non-covered by Medicare, do require a PA from Idaho Medicaid as if they were Medicaid only participants.

A request for a PA or an approved authorization for services does not guarantee payment. All other Department requirements must be fulfilled. Authorizations only confirm medical necessity criteria for the item or service based on the documentation submitted. The Department’s review of prior authorizations includes general criteria requirements in addition to any item specific criteria. They do not review if a provider or place of service is appropriate or any other considerations. Reimbursement is dependent on the participant being eligible on the date authorized services are rendered and the request must meet any other requirements such as:

- Meet medical necessity as established in section 011 or 880 of IDAPA 16.03.09, “Medicaid Basic Plan Benefits”;
- Meet all policy requirements;
- Be appropriate and effective treatment for the participant’s current medical condition;
- Be furnished by providers with the appropriate credentials;
- Be the most cost-effective method of meeting the participant’s medical needs; and
- Meet all federal and state regulations.

Medicaid issues a written notification of authorization or denial for all written requests for PA. Participants will receive a mailed notice of decision with information on their appeal rights and how to request a hearing if they disagree with the Department’s decision. Providers receive notifications based on their profile’s preferences. If the participant or provider disagrees with the Department’s decision they can consider requesting a reconsideration or file an appeal.

Approved authorizations are valid only for the period between the start and stop dates. If the service is going to be delivered outside of the approved dates, a new PA request must be submitted. Requests should be made before the expiration of the previous request to avoid breaks in care.
When authorized services or items are billed, PA numbers must be included on the appropriate claim line. Effective May 1, 2014, the claim line will be denied if the PA number is not present. Claims for inpatient services must have the prior authorization number on the header or each claim line, or the claim will deny. Some authorizations may also include modifiers as part of the approval. If the modifier listed in the authorization is missing from the claim line it will deny. The PA number and any required modifier are found on the paper Notice of Decision (NOD) letter or online through the Trading Partner Account (TPA) under View Authorizations. Payment will be denied for any medical item or service that requires a PA from Idaho Medicaid’s designated authorizing entity, but the item or service was provided prior to obtaining authorization. An exception may be allowed on a case-by-case basis in which, despite efforts on the part of the provider to submit a timely request or due to events beyond the control of the provider, PA was not obtained; e.g., a hospital discharge outside of business hours, etc. An explanation of the delay in submission must accompany the PA request and be submitted to the Department with any supporting documentation and a request for an exception. In addition, the provider may not bill the Medicaid participant for services not reimbursed by Medicaid because the PA was not obtained in a timely manner or because the provider failed to verify that a PA was required.

If an individual was not eligible for Medicaid at the time items requiring a PA were provided but was subsequently found eligible pursuant to IDAPA 16.03.05.051.03, a request must be submitted with all required documentation within 30 days of the date the provider became aware of the individual’s Medicaid eligibility. The medical item or service will be reviewed by the Department retroactively using the same medical necessity guidelines that apply to other prior authorization requests. If approved, the provider should refund to the participant any amount previously collected for the item or service.

See the General Billing Instructions, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook for more information on billing prior authorized services.

6.1.1. References: Prior Authorizations

(a) Federal Regulations


(b) Idaho Medicaid Publications

6.2. The Medical Care Unit

Prior authorization requests will be rejected if there is no clear indication that a prior authorization is required. Providers should note the reason for the request on the form if the item or service does not always require a prior authorization. Idaho Medicaid request forms are available at www.idmedicaid.com or by calling Provider Services at 1 (866) 686-4272 to request a paper copy.

The Medical Care Unit is Idaho Medicaid’s team that reviews prior authorization requests for some laboratory services as listed on the Numerical Fee Schedule. Prior authorizations must be submitted on the correct form with documentation supporting the request, and any additional items within the item specific criteria. Requests for codes that do not have a price on file on the Idaho Medicaid Numerical Fee Schedule must include pricing documentation with their request. See the General Billing Instructions, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook regarding acceptable documentation for manually priced goods and services.

The Medical Care Unit does not accept requests via phone or e-mail. Submit complete requests by the trading partner account, postal mail, or fax to:

Medical Care Unit  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0009  
Fax 1 (877) 314-8779  

Medicaid staff may request additional documentation to establish medical necessity for the item. The requested documentation must be received by the Medical Care Unit within two working days or the request may be denied.

The status of a prior authorization request submitted to the Medical Care Unit may be checked online at the Gainwell Technologies portal under “Authorization Status”, using your NPI. If you have questions on a Denial, click on the Notes, which will explain the reason for the Denial. A notice of decision will be mailed to the participant once the review is complete.

Modifications, including transfers to another provider, may be requested via the trading partner account or by faxing the request form with the prior authorization number, requested change and justification to 1 (877) 314-8779. Include any additional documentation if the change is not supported by the original submission. Requests from a provider other than the original requestor must have documentation from the participant or their legal guardian approving the change otherwise a new prior authorization is required.
6.3. Telligen, Inc.

Telligen, Inc. is Idaho Medicaid’s quality improvement organization (QIO) that reviews prior authorization requests for most laboratory services, as listed on the Numerical Fee Schedule or when a prior authorization would otherwise be indicated. Prior authorization requests will be rejected if there is no clear indication that a prior authorization is required. Providers should note the reason for the request in the notes section if the service does not always require a prior authorization. All prior authorization requests must use the Telligen Qualitrac provider portal. To apply for access to the Telligen Portal please fill out the registration packet located in the document library on the Telligen site.

Prior authorization requests must be submitted with a detailed written physician or non-physician practitioner’s order, and the items listed in the Documentation Requirements subsection, and any additional items within the service specific criteria. Requests for codes that do not have a price on file on the Idaho Medicaid Numerical Fee Schedule must include pricing documentation with their request. See the General Billing Instructions, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook regarding acceptable documentation for manually priced goods and services. Incomplete or incorrectly filled out prior authorization requests will be denied for improper documentation.

Telligen staff may request additional documentation to establish medical necessity for the item. The requested documentation must be received by Telligen within two working days, or the request may be denied.

Authorizations are usually completed within ten business days, but complex requests may require additional time.

See the QIO Provider Manual for information about requesting prior authorizations from the QIO, Telligen.

6.3.1. References: Prior Authorizations

(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications

“Changes to QIO Prior Authorization and Post Payment Review Submission Procedures.” MedicAide Newsletter, June 2023,
6.4. Modifying a Prior Authorization

Modifications may be requested by contacting the issuer of the prior authorization, the Medical Care Unit or Telligen, with the prior authorization number, requested change and justification. Submit any additional documentation if the change is not supported by the original submission.
6.5. **Status of a Prior Authorization**

The status of a prior authorization request through Telligen may be checked online at the [provider portal](#), or by contacting Telligen, Inc. customer service at 1 (866) 538-9510.

A completed prior authorization request’s status is available online at the [Gainwell Technologies](#) portal under “Authorization Status”, using your NPI. A notice of decision will be mailed to the participant once the review is complete. If you have questions on a Denial, click on the Notes, which will explain the reason for the Denial.
6.6. Prior Authorization Reconsiderations

Providers should request reconsiderations of a prior authorization (PA) decision when requests are denied for being incomplete, extenuating circumstances should be considered, or additional documentation is being submitted to support medical necessity. Reconsiderations shall be requested within 28 days of the Department’s decision. Providers must include the PA number on the request for it to be considered with previous documentation. If the PA number is not provided, a denial may be issued for an incomplete request. Reconsiderations are submitted to the same reviewer as the original request.

Upon completion of the reconsideration review, Medicaid or its designee will issue a second Notice of Decision for Medical Benefits. If the provider or participant disagrees with the PA reconsideration decision made by Medicaid or its designee, they may file a Request for Appeal. The provider or participant has 28 days from the mailing date of the second Notice of Decision for Medical Benefits to submit a formal appeal.
6.7. **Prior Authorization Appeals**

Providers and participants may appeal a prior authorization (PA) decision made by Medicaid or its designee, by sending a request in writing. Appeals are for when there is a disagreement about the decision made based on documentation already provided. Appeals should not be used to submit new documentation for consideration. Participants and Providers should use the Prior Authorization Reconsideration process if they have additional details that may change the Department’s decision.

Appeals are requested by submitting a cover letter detailing why the formal appeal is requested and including a copy of the PA denial letter. Appeals are sent to:

Division of Medicaid  
Idaho Department of Health and Welfare  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0036  
Fax: 1 (208) 364-1811  
MedicaidAppeals@dhw.idaho.gov

6.7.1. **References: Prior Authorization Appeals**

(a) **State Regulations**

*Appeal and Fair Hearing, Idaho Code 56-216 (1941).* Idaho State Legislature,  
https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title56/T56CH2/SECT56-216/.

https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title56/T56CH10/SECT56-1005/.

https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title56/T56CH10/SECT56-1005/.

“Burden of Proof – Provider Cases.” IDAPA 16.05.03, "Contested Case Proceedings and Declaratory Rulings,” Sec. 133. Department of Administration, State of Idaho,  

*Contested Cases, Idaho Code 67-5240 (1992).* Idaho State Legislature,  

“Department Responsibility.” IDAPA 16.05.03, "Contested Case Proceedings and Declaratory Rulings,” Sec. 100. Department of Administration, State of Idaho,  

*Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies, Idaho Code 67-5271 (1992).* Idaho State Legislature,  

“Filing of Appeals.” IDAPA 16.05.03, "Contested Case Proceedings and Declaratory Rulings,” Sec. 101. Department of Administration, State of Idaho,  
6.8. Transferring a Prior Authorization

Participants have the right to a provider of their choice and may change that provider at any time. The initial prior authorization (PA) does not automatically transfer if the participant chooses a new provider. The participant, parent or guardian is required to contact the issuer of the prior authorization, the Medical Care Unit or Telligen, verbally or in writing of their intent to change providers. Supporting documentation is not necessary to transfer an existing PA.
7. Documentation Requirements

The laboratory is required to obtain all medical necessity documentation prior to billing for services. Documentation requirements applicable in specific situations are listed throughout the handbook for provider convenience. General documentation requirements are also required and found in the General Information and Requirements for Providers, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook. If a clinical diagnostic test order does not require a signature, there must be signed medical documentation such as a progress note by the treating physician or non-physician practitioner.

In addition to standard documentation requirements and quality assurance requirements, laboratories must maintain documentation of:

- Physician or non-physician practitioner’s order;
- Documentation supporting medical necessity;
- Identification number of the specimen;
- Means of identifying who the specimen belongs to;
- Name of the ordering physician or non-physician practitioner;
- Date specimen was collected;
- Date specimen was received;
- Test performed;
- Date test was performed;
- Results of test;
- Name and address of laboratory specimen was referred to, if applicable; and
- The referring laboratory that submitted the specimen, if applicable.

Documentation must be made available to Department personnel acting in their official capacity immediately upon request. Services without documentation are not eligible for reimbursement. Providers should only submit records requested by the Department. Documentation sent unsolicited, or not for a service requiring prior authorization, will not be reviewed by the Department. Unreviewed documentation does not constitute approval or authorization of a service.

7.1.1. References: Documentation Requirements

(a) CMS Guidance


(b) State Regulations

8. Reimbursement

Providers must be enrolled to receive reimbursement from Idaho Medicaid. Reimbursement can only be made to the provider of the service. Pass through billing is not permitted except as noted below:

- An independent laboratory can bill for the services of a reference laboratory;
- A transplant facility can bill for histocompatibility testing for a transplant; and
- Healthcare professionals acting within their licensure and scope of practice to comply with IDAPA 16.02.12, “Procedures and Testing to be Performed on Newborn Infants.”

The date of service on claims for laboratory services is the date the specimen is obtained except when a specimen is collected over multiple days or the specimen is older than 30 days. Specimens collected over multiple days are billed with the date the collection ended. Tests performed on specimens in storage for over 30 days are billed with the date the test is performed.

Idaho Medicaid reimburses most laboratory services on a fee-for-service basis. Usual and customary fees are paid up to the Medicaid maximum allowance listed in the Numerical Fee Schedule. The Medicaid maximum allowance for clinical diagnostic laboratory tests cannot exceed the Medicare reimbursement rate. The Medicaid maximum allowance for other tests, and clinical diagnostic laboratory tests performed by a hospital laboratory for an inpatient participant, will be established by the Department.

Procedure codes which appear on the Medicaid Numerical Fee Schedule with a reimbursement amount of $0.00 must have the appropriate documentation for the code to be priced correctly. If the code is prior authorized by the Medical Care Unit, the documentation must be sent with the prior authorization request. If the code is not prior authorized or is prior authorized by Telligen, then the documentation must be attached to the claim. Services on claims or authorization requests without the required attachments will be denied. Documentation must be legible and not handwritten. Amounts invoiced directly to the Department must be at the provider’s usual and customary rate, which is the amount the provider charges to Medicare beneficiaries and other patients liable for such charges, as supported by the provider’s records. This amount must be adjusted to reflect the provider’s billing policies so that the amount reflects what the provider actually receives through reasonable collection efforts. Laboratory tests will be priced by the Medical Care Unit based off the submitted documentation. Acceptable documentation for these services includes an invoice on letterhead with:

- The Department as the entity being invoiced;
- The Idaho Medicaid provider as the invoicing entity;
- A date of invoice (Dates after the date of service are acceptable);
- The date the specimen was obtained, or the test was ordered; and
- The service provided and corresponding procedure code.

Reimbursement for the professional component of a test for participants receiving hospice care is included in the payment to the hospice. The professional component is not separately billable unless it is provided by a physician not employed by the hospice and is not related to the hospice diagnosis.

In-house laboratory services provided by Indian Health Services (IHS), Federally Qualified Health Clinic (FQHC), or Rural Health Clinics (RHC) are part of the encounter rate if the participant saw a qualifying provider type on the day the specimen was collected. If the participant did not see a qualifying provider on the day the specimen was collected, the test
may be billed under fee-for-service. See the IHS, FQHC and RHC Services, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook for more information.

See the General Billing Instructions, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook regarding policy on billing, prior authorization, and requirements for billing all other third party resources before submitting claims to Medicaid.

See the General Information and Requirements for Providers, Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook for information on when billing a participant is allowable including co-pays.

8.1.1. References: Reimbursement

(a) Federal Regulations


(b) Idaho Medicaid Publications


(c) State Regulations


8.2. Laboratory Modifiers

8.2.1. Modifier 90
The Department recognizes modifier 90 as only for use by a reference laboratory’s services for an independent laboratory. Physicians are not eligible to bill Modifier 90.

8.2.2. References: Modifier 90

(a) Idaho Medicaid Publications

(b) Professional Organizations

8.2.3. Modifier 91
Modifier 91 is for use on clinical diagnostic laboratory tests when a test is necessary a second time for a participant on the same day. This modifier should not be used in conjunction with codes that represent a series of tests or that include all tests on a given day. Tests that are run a second time to confirm the initial results are non-covered and should not be billed with this modifier. Tests run again due to an error, issues with equipment or specimens are also non-covered and ineligible to be billed with this modifier.

8.2.4. References: Modifier 91

(a) Professional Organizations

8.2.5. Modifier QW
Modifier QW is required to identify a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) waived test unless the service is excluded from CLIA edits.
8.2.6. Professional and Technical Components

Some laboratory codes are global procedures that include both a professional and technical component. These codes can only be billed without a 26 or TC modifier when all parts of the service are completed by the same provider. Providers only completing the professional portion of the code must append modifier 26 to the claim line. While providers only completing the technical portion of the code must append the TC modifier to the claim line.

If a pathologist has their own office and equipment, they may bill and be paid for the complete test including those that cannot be broken out into the professional and technical components.
Appendix A. Laboratory, Provider Handbook Modifications
The table below contains modifications to this handbook for three years preceding the most recent publication.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version</th>
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<td>8.0</td>
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<td>6. Prior Authorizations</td>
<td>Update process.</td>
<td>08/02/2023</td>
<td>E Garibovic W Deseron</td>
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<td>Update process.</td>
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<td>7.9</td>
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<td>08/02/2023</td>
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<td>7.8</td>
<td>4.7.2. Genetic Counseling</td>
<td>Made allowance for NP and pharmacist to provide counseling.</td>
<td>08/02/2023</td>
<td>E Garibovic W Deseron</td>
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<td>7.7</td>
<td>4.7. Genetic Testing</td>
<td>Removed prohibition on pharmacist ordering.</td>
<td>08/02/2023</td>
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<td>Deleted section. References sourced to appropriate sections.</td>
<td>08/02/2023</td>
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<td>Update pa requirements and remove fax number.</td>
<td>08/02/2023</td>
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<td>05/26/2023</td>
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<td>New section. Incorporate newsletter article.</td>
<td>05/26/2023</td>
<td>W Deseron K Duke</td>
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<td>6.1</td>
<td>3.2. Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) Services</td>
<td>Clarification that periodicity schedule testing does not require PA.</td>
<td>05/26/2023</td>
<td>W Deseron K Duke</td>
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<td>1.2 Provider Relations Consultants</td>
<td>Updated contact phone numbers for PRCs</td>
<td>11/18/2022</td>
<td>R Lynch M Payne J Kennedy-King</td>
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<td>3.88</td>
<td>Appendix A Section Modifications</td>
<td>Renamed to Laboratory, Provider Handbook Modifications. Removed changes over 3 years.</td>
<td>06/01/2021</td>
<td>E Garibovic W Deseron</td>
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<td>06/01/2021</td>
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<td>06/01/2021</td>
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<td>1.3.3 Place-of-Service (POS) Codes</td>
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