



MEMO

TO: Regional Medical Laboratory Clients
FROM: Cindi Starkey, MD, PhD
DATE: March 20, 2013
SUBJECT: Genetic Testing Requiring Pre-Authorization

Pre-authorization Required by Payers for Genetic and Molecular Testing

Regional Medical Laboratory would like to share with our clients that many payers now have pre-authorization requirements for genetic testing. These payers will only pay for testing when used for certain diagnostic conditions, and may not pay when the testing is done as a screen. Community Care of Oklahoma has had these guidelines in place for over a year. RML has been notified of additional medical necessity requirements from Medicaid, Aetna and other payers due to the increased utilization of genetic tests.

RML is encouraging all of our clients to check with the patient's insurance before ordering the tests noted below to determine if pre-authorization is needed. If indicated, please obtain the pre-authorization prior to ordering or specimen collection. RML is unable to obtain the pre-authorization directly from the payer. We are working with the payers to obtain the required authorization, but at this time the request must come from the ordering physician, as they need to know the reason that the test is being done. If a pre-authorization is not obtained prior to specimen collection, testing may be delayed and the charges may be the responsibility of the patient.

The most common tests we are currently seeing ordered that require pre-authorizations are the following, but all genetic testing should be reviewed for pre-authorization requirements:

- ALK Translocation Analysis
- B Cell Gene Rearrangement
- BCR/ABL Gene Rearrangement
- Cystic Fibrosis Genetic Test
- Cytogenetics and Chromosome Studies with Bone Marrow evaluation
- EGFR Mutation Analysis
- Factor II Mutation
- Factor V Leiden
- Hemochromatosis DNA by PCR
- Hypercoagulation Analyzer
- JAK2 Mutation
- KRAS Mutation Analysis
- MTHFR DNA Mutation
- T-cell receptor Gene Rearrangement

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. If you have questions you may call Michael Marshall, Billing Manager, at 918-744-3131 ext. 30294 or Dr. Cindi Starkey at 918-744-2553.