



MEMORANDUM

To: All Regional Medical Laboratory, Inc. Clients

From: Regional Medical Laboratory, Inc.
 Brittany Vaughn, MHA, MLS(ASCP) SM, Director of Clinical Operations
 Amy Garrison, MBA, MLS(ASCP), Director of Sales and Client Services
 Nadra Connor, Director of Revenue Cycle

Date: September 13, 2018

Subject: Updates to Prescription Drug Monitoring Testing

To better align our Prescription Drug Monitoring (PDM) test offerings with the published guidelines from CMS and other prominent payers, Regional Medical Laboratory (RML) would like to make you aware of the following updates:

Testing of Adulterated Specimens

Effective September 17, 2018, RML will no longer perform drug screens or confirmations on specimens found to have been adulterated or substituted with a non-urine substance. Specimens that fail the adulterant screen will be cancelled and the client will be contacted by the RML Client Services team to discuss recollection.

Drug Screens with Reflex to Confirmatory Testing

Effective September 17, 2018, RML will no longer perform reflex confirmatory testing based upon the results of our PDM drug screens (see tests below). PDM presumptive drug screening and confirmatory testing should be ordered independently of one another and must meet medical necessity criteria for each patient’s insurance provider.

In general, presumptive drug screening is considered medically necessary for baseline screening, stabilization, maintenance or subsequent evaluation of patients being monitored for pain management or substance abuse use. Confirmatory testing is not medically necessary for every specimen or patient and should not be done routinely. Confirmatory testing may be considered when the result of the drug screen is inconsistent with the patient's medical history or clinical presentation. Medically necessary confirmatory testing may be added on after screening testing has been performed and the results reviewed by the ordering provider. Specimens will be held for 30 days in-lab to allow for add on confirmatory testing.

Impacted drug screens that will no longer reflex to confirmatory testing

Test Name	Pain Panel General	Pain Panel Comprehensive
Test Code	4000314	4000334

(Continued)



Requirements for Claim Reimbursement

All orders for PDM testing must be accompanied by a signed order from the physician or other authorized ordering provider. Specimens received without a signed order will be held until documentation can be obtained.

It is also critically important that the rationale for ordering each screen and/or confirmatory test be documented by the ordering provider in the patient's medical record. RML may request copies of the patient's medical record to support billing claims submitted to certain payers, most commonly Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma. Claims that do not meet documentation requirements or medical necessity guidelines may not be reimbursed and you may be responsible for covering the cost of the testing. For more information, please review the payer guidelines and medical policies listed at the bottom of this memo.

Please contact your account representative or RML Client Services with questions regarding this update.

Links to Select Medical Policies for Review:

CMS

[Provider Compliance Tips for Laboratory Tests – Other - Urine Drug Screening](#)

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma

[BCBS Medical Policy 207.154 - Drug Testing in Pain Management and Substance Use Disorder Monitoring](#)

[BCBS 2018 Billing/Documentation Guidelines for Urine Drug Tests](#)

United Health

[United Health Policy CMP-029 - Drug Testing](#)

Cigna

[Medical Coverage Policy 0513](#)

Humana

[Humana Drug Testing Policy](#)