

Payment Policy 200

Vitamin D Assay Testing

Purpose

This policy is intended to ensure correct provider reimbursement and serves only as a general resource regarding Passport by Molina Healthcare's reimbursement policy for the services described in this policy. It is not intended to address every aspect of a reimbursement situation, nor is it intended to impact care decisions. This policy was developed using nationally accepted industry standards and coding principles. In a conflict, federal and state guidelines, as applicable, and the member's benefit plan document may supersede the information in this policy. Also, to the extent of conflicts between this policy and the provider contract language, the provider contract language will prevail. Coverage may be mandated by applicable legal requirements of a state, the federal government or the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). References included were accurate at the time of policy approval.

Policy Overview

According to CMS, vitamin D is a hormone, synthesized by the skin, the liver, and then metabolized by the kidney to an active hormone, calcitriol. An excess of vitamin D may lead to hypercalcemia. Vitamin D deficiency may lead to a variety of disorders. This policy utilizes indications and limitations identified within the CMS LCD of Medicare coverage and reimbursement for these services.

Vitamin D is called a "vitamin" because of its availability from an exogenous source, predominantly from oily fish in the form of cholecalciferol, vitamin D3. Plant-based vitamin D is in the form of ergocalciferol, Vitamin D2. It is really a hormone, as it is synthesized by the skin, metabolized by the liver, and converted by the kidney to an active hormone, calcitriol. Calcitriol in its classical action, absorbs calcium from the intestine and promotes bone mineralization.

An excess of vitamin D is unusual but may lead to hypercalcemia. Vitamin D deficiency may lead to a variety of disorders, the most infamous of which is rickets in growing children or osteomalacia in adults. Evaluating patients' vitamin D levels is accomplished by measuring the level of 25-hydroxyvitamin D. Measurement of other metabolites is generally not medically necessary outside of several unusual metabolic bone disorders or in chronic kidney disease-mineral bone disorder (CKD-MBD).

Reimbursement Guidelines

Passport by Molina Healthcare reimburses for vitamin D testing when considered medically necessary. Medical necessity is based on the criteria outlined within the CMS Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) L33996 and L34658 for CPT codes 82306 and 82652. These CPT codes are considered medically necessary when billed with the ICD-10-CM-diagnostic code(s) specified within the associated LCDs.

Audit and Recovery Process:

- ✚ **Review:** Claims will be meticulously examined against Passport by Molina Healthcare's standards.
- ✚ **Discrepancy Identification:** Any inconsistencies or errors identified will be documented.
- ✚ **Recovery:** Overpayments due to inaccuracies will be recovered either by offsetting from future payments or through direct refund requests.
- ✚ **Appeals:** Providers reserve the right to contest any claim adjustments or denials. Details of the appeal process will accompany the notification.

Policy Monitoring, Review, and Updates:

- ✚ The policy will undergo annual reviews or as required, ensuring its alignment with industry best practices, regulatory mandates, and Passport by Molina Healthcare's operational necessities. Any updates will be promptly communicated to providers.

Supplemental Information

Please note, Passport by Molina Healthcare has followed and enforced these guidelines, in accordance with applicable regulations, since inception on January 1, 2021. For this specific policy, the publication date is merely the date the policy was formally memorialized.

Definitions

Term	Definition
CMS	The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. It is a federal agency within the United States Department of Health and Human Services that administers the Medicare program and works in partnership with state governments to administer Medicaid, the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and health insurance portability standards.
Vitamin D	Is a hormone, synthesized by the skin, the liver, and then metabolized by the kidney to an active hormone, calcitriol
CPT 82306	Vitamin D; 25 hydroxy, includes fraction(s) if performed
CPT 82652	Vitamin D; dihydroxy, includes fraction(s) if performed

Documentation History

Type	Date	Action
Effective Date		
Revised Date		

References

- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Local Coverage Determination (LCD): Vitamin D Assay Testing: LCD L33996
[LCD - Vitamin D Assay Testing \(L33996\)](#)
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Local Coverage Determination (LCD): Billing and Coding: Vitamin D Assay Testing: LCD L34658
<https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/view/lcd.aspx?LCDId=34658>
- CGS Vitamin Deficiency Screening in Adults
[Vitamin D Deficiency Screening in Adults](#)
- US Department of Health and Human Services: Vitamin D
[Vitamin D - Health Professional Fact Sheet](#)

This policy is designed to provide guidance and is not a guarantee of payment. Healthcare providers should make medical necessity determinations based on the individual clinical circumstances of each patient.