

Chapter 13

Laboratory Services

13.1. Substance Use Disorder Providers

13.2. Mental Health Providers

13.1. Substance Use Disorder Providers

For dates of service after December 31, 2014, laboratories must bill the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's (DHMH's) Administrative Services Organization (ASO), Beacon Health Options, Inc. (Beacon), for drug screening services related to substance use disorder (SUD) treatment services. Maryland Medicaid will follow the guidance of CMS regarding drug screening services. Because Medicare has decided not to price the new drug testing codes, Maryland Medicaid will use alphanumeric G codes developed to replace the 2014 CPT codes that are being deleted for 2015. Maryland Medicaid reimburses for lab tests at 80 percent of Medicare payment rates and therefore, Beacon will not pay for new CPT codes for drug abuse tests.

Specifically, Maryland Medicaid will use G0434 to report simple testing methods, such as dipsticks, cups, cassettes, and cards that are interpreted visually, with the assistance of a scanner, or are read utilizing a moderately complex reader device outside the instrumented laboratory setting. This code is also used to report any other type of drug screen testing using test(s) that are classified as Clinical Laboratory Improvement (CLIA) moderate complexity test(s). G0434 includes qualitative drug screen tests that are waived under CLIA, as well as dipsticks, cups, cards, and cassettes that are not CLIA-waived. Please note that only one unit of service for code G0434 can be billed per patient encounter regardless of the number of drug classes tested. Opioid maintenance therapy (OMT) programs have this service included in their bundled weekly rates; therefore, if a physician working with an OMT order G0434, the laboratory should bill the OMT program for this service.

Maryland Medicaid will use G0431 for more complex testing methods, such as multi-channel chemistry analyzers, where a more complex instrumented device is required to perform some or all of the screening tests for the patient. This code may only be used if the drug screening is classified as a CLIA high complexity test. CLIA-waived tests and comparable non-waived tests may not be reported under test code G0431 and instead must be billed under CPT code G0434. G0431 may only be reported once per patient encounter and laboratories billing G0431 must append the QW modifier to the claim.

Other single use CPT codes which may be billed to Beacon when medically appropriate include:

CODE	DESCRIPTION
G6040	Alcohol; any specimen except breathe
G6042	Amphetamine or methamphetamine
G6043	Barbiturates, not otherwise specified
G6031	Benzodiazepines
G6044	Cocaine or metabolite
G6053	Methadone
G6056	Opiate(s), drug and metabolites, each procedure

Additionally, all claims must have the SUD diagnosis included on the claim.

*Please see COMAR 10.09.70, available at: <http://www.dsd.state.md.us/MDR/mdregister.html>.

13.2. Mental Health Providers

The Maryland Public Behavioral Health System (PBHS) will reimburse laboratories that are in compliance with COMAR 10.09.09 for medically necessary tests and procedures related to psychiatric treatment rendered to Medicaid recipients by psychiatrists in the PBHS network. The laboratory must have a valid Maryland Medicaid provider number for laboratory services.