We've implemented a new policy to address respiratory viral test panels. It includes COVID-19 specific guidelines as well.

Per the policy, only after common conditions are ruled out, should uncommon viral conditions be tested. Respiratory viral panel testing in the outpatient setting may be indicated for individuals who are at high risk for complications of respiratory viral infection, including but not limited to individuals who are immunocompromised, including lung transplant recipients, when the result of testing is used to guide or alter management.

For details including covered codes, coverage criteria and limitations and exclusions, please see the attached policy.
Respiratory Viral Panel Testing

DESCRIPTION

Virus infections can be confirmed by a multitude of methods. Diagnostic virology has changed rapidly due to the advent of molecular techniques and increased clinical sensitivity of serological assays. Immunofluorescence or immunoperoxidase are laboratory testing methods commonly used to determine if a virus is present in a patient sample. Molecular testing techniques are able to assess the viral genome or nucleic acid. Tests may include: Rapid molecular assays, Reverse Transcription-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR), and other nucleic acid amplification tests.

Because viruses cause most URIs, the diagnostic role of laboratory investigations and radiologic studies is limited. Only after common conditions are ruled out, should uncommon viral conditions be tested. Respiratory viral panel testing in the outpatient setting may be indicated for individuals who are at high risk for complications of respiratory viral infection, including but not limited to individuals who are immunocompromised, including lung transplant recipients, when the result of testing is used to guide or alter management.

Note: These tests are not considered “Genetic tests”. They are covered as “Laboratory testing or Diagnostic Laboratory testing”.

COVERED CODES - Respiratory Viral Panels

- 0098U Respiratory pathogen, multiplex reverse transcription and multiplex amplified probe technique, multiple types or subtypes, 14 targets (adenovirus, coronavirus, human metapneumovirus, influenza A, influenza A subtype H1, influenza A subtype H3, influenza A subtype H1-2009, influenza B, parainfluenza virus, human rhinovirus/enterovirus, respiratory syncytial virus, Bordetella pertussis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Mycoplasma pneumoniae) [USE FOR BioFire® FilmArray® Respiratory Panel (RP) EZ]
- 0099U Respiratory pathogen, multiplex reverse transcription and multiplex amplified probe technique, multiple types or subtypes, 20 targets (adenovirus, coronavirus 229E, coronavirus HKU1, coronavirus, coronavirus OC43, human metapneumovirus, influenza A, influenza A subtype, influenza A subtype H3, influenza A subtype H1-2009, influenza, parainfluenza virus, parainfluenza virus 2, parainfluenza virus 3, parainfluenza virus 4, human rhinovirus/enterovirus, respiratory syncytial virus, Bordetella pertussis, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Mycoplasma pneumoniae) [USE FOR BioFire® FilmArray® Respiratory Panel (RP)]
- 0100U Respiratory pathogen, multiplex reverse transcription and multiplex amplified probe technique, multiple types or subtypes, 21 targets (adenovirus, coronavirus 229E, coronavirus HKU1, coronavirus NL63, coronavirus OC43, human metapneumovirus, human rhinovirus/enterovirus, influenza A, including subtypes H1, H1-2009, and H3, influenza B, parainfluenza virus 1, parainfluenza virus 2, parainfluenza virus 3, parainfluenza virus 4, respiratory syncytial virus, Bordetella parapertussis [IS1001], Bordetella pertussis [ptxP], Chlamydia pneumoniae, Mycoplasma pneumoniae) [USE FOR BioFire® FilmArray® Respiratory Panel 2 (RP2)]
- 0115U Respiratory infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA and RNA), 18 viral types and subtypes and 2 bacterial targets, amplified probe technique, including multiplex reverse transcription for RNA targets, each analyte reported as detected or not detected [USE FOR GenMark® ePlex Respiratory Pathogen (RP) Panel]
- 87631 Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); respiratory virus (eg, adenovirus, influenza virus, coronavirus, metapneumovirus, parainfluenza virus, respiratory syncytial virus, rhinovirus), includes multiplex reverse transcription, when performed, and multiplex amplified probe technique, multiple types or subtypes, 3-5 targets
- 87632 Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); respiratory virus (eg, adenovirus, influenza virus, coronavirus, metapneumovirus, parainfluenza virus, respiratory syncytial virus, rhinovirus), includes multiplex reverse transcription, when performed, and multiplex amplified probe technique, multiple types or subtypes, 6-11 targets
- 87633 Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); respiratory virus (eg, adenovirus, influenza virus, coronavirus, metapneumovirus, parainfluenza virus, respiratory syncytial virus, rhinovirus), includes multiplex reverse transcription, when performed, and multiplex amplified probe technique, multiple types or subtypes, 12-25 targets

COVERED CODES - Corona virus - COVID-19

- 86328 Immunoassay for infectious agent antibody(ies), qualitative or semiquantitative, single step method (eg, reagent strip); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19])
- 86769 Antibody; severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19])
- 87635 Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)
CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique

**COVERAGE CRITERIA**

1. Multiplex PCR respiratory viral panels [87631, 87632, 87633, 0098U, 099U, 0100U, 0115U] are covered for HAP/AHL Members when the following criteria are met:
   a. Member is in a healthcare setting that is equipped to care for and routinely does care for critically ill patients and the test is billed from ONE of the following settings:
      i. Urgent Care (place of service 20)
      ii. Inpatient hospital (place of service 21)
      iii. Emergency Room (place of service 23)
   b. Test is ordered by an infectious disease specialist who is diagnosing and treating the Member.

2. Novel Coronavirus /Covid-19 testing [86328, 87669, 87635, U0001, U0002] with FDA EUA tests is covered for all HAP/AHL Members when ordered by a qualified healthcare provider.

For any testing:

1. Coverage of services is based on the Member’s subscriber documents. Please refer to those resources for information regarding eligibility for coverage, network or provider requirements. If the Member has coverage for the services discussed in this policy, then the medical criteria applies.
2. Some services require pre-authorization by a HAP Medical Director or designee, please refer to the Procedure reference list for specific code information.
3. Medicaid Providers should refer to:
   a. The Michigan Medicaid Provider Manual for coverage criteria, located at: [http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2945_42542_42543_42546_42551-159815--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2945_42542_42543_42546_42551-159815--,00.html)
   b. The Michigan Medicaid Fee Schedule located at: [http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2945_42542_42543_42546_42551-159815--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2945_42542_42543_42546_42551-159815--,00.html)

**LIMITATIONS**

1. Viral panels are billed with the corresponding code that best describes the test. Unit of service is one.

**EXCLUSIONS**

1. Respiratory viral panel testing in the outpatient setting is not covered for HAP/AHL Members who are:
   a. Average risk individuals
   b. Who are not at high risk of complications (not immunocompromised)
   c. The result of testing is unlikely to guide management
2. Respiratory viral panel testing in the outpatient setting using large panels involving 6 or more targets is not covered for HAP/AHL Members except when ordered by a provider specializing in infectious disease.

**REFERENCES**


**MEDICARE REFERENCES**

   a. Local Coverage Article:

This Benefit policy discusses the medical criteria for covered services. Coverage of services for Members is based on the Member’s subscriber documents and are subject to all terms and conditions including specific exclusions and limitations. This type of document includes the following: Subscriber contract and associated riders; Member Benefit Guide; or an Evidence of Coverage document (for Medicare Advantage Members).

**HAP HMO/POS and AHL EPO/PPO Members:**
If there is a discrepancy between this policy and coverage described in the subscriber documents, the Member's subscriber documents will apply.

**ASO Members:**
Coverage as discussed in this policy may not apply to employer groups that are self-funded (referred to as an ASO group [Administrative Services Only]). Each ASO group determines the coverage available to their members which is found in the ASO Benefit Guide and associated riders. If a member has coverage for the type of service covered by this policy, then the medical criteria as discussed in this policy applies to those services.

**Medicare Advantage Plan Members:**
Coverage is based on Medicare (CMS) regulations and guidelines which include the NCDs (National Coverage Decision) and LCDs (Local Coverage Decision) for our area. When no coverage determination has been made by CMS, then this policy will apply.

**Medicaid Plan Members:**
For Medicaid/Healthy Michigan Plan members coverage is based on medical necessity criteria being met and the appropriate code(s) from the coding section of this policy being included on the Michigan Medicaid Fee Schedule located at: [http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2945_42542_42543_42546_42551-159815--.00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2945_42542_42543_42546_42551-159815--.00.html). If there is a discrepancy between this policy and the Michigan Medicaid Provider Manual located at: [http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2945_5100-87572--.00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2945_5100-87572--.00.html), the Michigan Medicaid Provider Manual will apply.