HEALTHNETWORKLABS.COM

VOLUME 5 • APRIL 2019



# LAB-LINK

## NEW AND UPDATED LABORATORY TESTING INFORMATION

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#### EFFECTIVE DATE

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#### **TEST CHANGES**

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#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

New Tests to be Flagged for Medicaid/ Medicaid Replacement Pre-Authorization

Immediately

5

#### FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE TEST INFORMATION, VISIT OUR ONLINE HANDBOOK AT HEALTHNETWORKLABS.COM

CPT (Current & Procedural Terminology) is a trademark of the AMA. Codes listed are guidelines and are for informational purposes only. Coding questions should be directed to the third party payor and/or the AMA. OIG guidelines recommend tests ordered should be reasonable and necessary for the patient, given their clinical condition. Physicians who order medically unnecessary tests for which Medicare reimbursement is claimed may be subject to penalties. Individual components of profiles or panels may be ordered individually at an additional charge. Physicians who consider Reflex testing unnecessary may order an initial test without the Reflexed test. Reflex or confirmation tests are performed at an additional charge.

## **TEST CHANGES**

TSH with Reflex to FT4 (TSHRF)		
Description of Change:	The reflex testing for the test code TSHRF (Thyroid Stimulating Hormone Reflex) has been modified. The following changes are listed: if the TSH result is low, there will now be a reflex to a Free T4.	
Effective Date:	04/09/2019	
Includes:	<ul> <li>TSH</li> <li>FT4 (when TSH is low or high)</li> </ul>	
Methodology:	Direct Chemiluminescence	
Testing Schedule:	Routine, daily	
Report Availability:	1 day	
Specimen Requirements:	<u>Minimum Volume</u> : 1 mL serum <u>Container</u> : Gold top tube, serum separator	

For additional information, please contact Charlene Miller, Lead Laboratory Technologist, Automation at 877-402-4221.

## **TEST CHANGES**

- Drug Screen 5, Urine with Confirmation (UDS5)
- Drug Screen 7, Urine with Confirmation (UDS7)
- Drug Screen 8, Urine with Confirmation (UDS8)
- Drug Screen 9, Urine with Confirmation (UDS9)
- Drug Screen 10, Urine with Confirmation (UDS10)

Description of Change:	Validity Values for Specific Gravity, Creatinine, pH, and Nitrites will be visible on reports.
Effective Date:	04/01/2019
Methodology:	Immunoassay (IA)
Testing Schedule:	Routine, daily
Report Availability:	1 day 1-5 days for confirmation of positive screening results
Specimen Requirements:	<u>Minimum Volume</u> : 5 mL urine <u>Container</u> : Plastic urine container
Special Instructions:	<ul> <li>Chain-of-Custody Form optional</li> <li>Not for forensic/legal testing</li> <li>This test is not intended for use in employment-related testing.</li> <li>NOTE: Positive samples are only retained for 2 weeks.</li> </ul>
Reference Range:	Negative
Clinical Utility:	Useful for detecting drug abuse.

For additional information, please contact Shannon Clarke , Manager, Toxicology at 877-402-4221.

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Medicaid/Medicaid Replacement Pre-Authorization		
Description of Change:	Please note that the following testing will begin to flag for pre-auth for Medicaid and the Medicaid Replacement plans:	
Effective Date:	IMMEDIATELY	
	CPT 87505 and 87506 – PCR Testing.	
	TEST CODE	
	MFEST	
	PSPCR	
	VSPCR	
	CSPCR	
	BSPCR	
	The following payers will be impacted:	
	PA Medical Assistance	
	• Aetna Better Health	
	• AmeriHealth Caritas	
	AmeriHealth Caritas Northeast	
	• Gateway	
	• Geisinger	
	Health Partners	
	Keystone First	
	UnitedHealthCare Community Plans	
	• UPMC	

For additional information, please contact Jennifer Reese, Coordinator, Health Plan Partnerships at 484-425-5087.