

# The Bulletin

This monthly bulletin includes recent changes to our medical policies and reimbursement policies. It is a supplement to our bimonthly provider newsletter, *The Connection*. **Note:** Medication policy updates are published in *The Connection*. Dental policy updates are published in the News section of [asurisdental.com/providers](https://asurisdental.com/providers).

## Medical policies

### Commercial

Changes effective April 1, 2024

#### Genetic Testing

- Evaluating the Utility of Genetic Panels (#64)
  - Added 16 new investigational tests
  - Removed 41 tests

#### Laboratory

- Investigational Gene Expression, Biomarker, and Multianalyte Testing (#77)
  - Added six investigational tests

#### Surgery

- Gastroesophageal Reflux Surgery (#186)
  - Clarified criteria
- Transurethral Water Vapor Thermal Therapy and Transurethral Waterjet Ablation (Aquablation) of the Prostate (#210)
  - Liberalized to consider aquablation medically necessary when criteria are met

#### Transplant

- Small Bowel, Small Bowel/Liver, and Multivisceral Transplant (#09)
  - Changed policy title; policy was previously titled *Isolated Small Bowel Transplant*
  - Added criteria regarding multivisceral transplant, which was previously addressed in our *Small Bowel/Liver and Multivisceral Transplant* (Transplant #18) medical policy

[View our commercial  
Medical Policy Manual](#)

# Medicare Advantage

Changes effective April 1, 2024

## Behavioral Health

- Chemical Dependency and Substance Abuse Services (#20)
  - Updated to include intensive outpatient programs in accordance with Chapter 6 of the *Medicare Benefit Policy Manual*

## Genetic Testing

- Genetic and Molecular Diagnostics – Next Generation Sequencing, Genetic Panels, and Biomarker Testing (#64)
  - Removed tests related to cancer because they are now addressed in our new Medicare Advantage medical policies:
    - *Genetic and Molecular Diagnostics – Testing for Cancer Diagnosis, Prognosis, and Treatment Selection* (#83)
    - *Genetic and Molecular Diagnostics – Testing for Inherited Cancer Risk* (#02)
  - Updated Medicare guidance and links where appropriate
- Genetic and Molecular Diagnostics – Testing for Cancer Diagnosis, Prognosis, and Treatment Selection (#83)
  - New policy is specific to genetic and molecular testing related to cancer diagnosis, prognosis and treatment selection
    - Includes content from our *Genetic and Molecular Diagnostics – Single Gene or Variant Testing* (#20) Medicare Advantage medical policy, which was archived April 1, 2024
    - Subject was previously addressed in our *Genetic and Molecular Diagnostics – Next Generation Sequencing, Genetic Panels, and Biomarker Testing* (#64) Medicare Advantage medical policy
- Genetic and Molecular Diagnostics – Testing for Inherited Cancer Risk (#02)
  - New policy is specific to genetic testing for hereditary cancer risk
    - Includes content from our *Genetic and Molecular Diagnostics – Single Gene or Variant Testing* (#20) Medicare Advantage medical policy, which was archived April 1, 2024
    - Subject was previously addressed in our *Genetic and Molecular Diagnostics – Next Generation Sequencing, Genetic Panels, and Biomarker Testing* (#64) Medicare Advantage medical policy

## Medicine

- Investigational (Experimental) Services, New and Emerging Medical Technologies and Procedures, and Other Non-Covered Services (#149)
  - Added new second-quarter code updates

## Surgery

- Cosmetic and Reconstructive Procedures (#12)
  - Removed dermal filler codes from policy because they will be addressed in medication policy

[View our Medicare Advantage Medical Policy Manual](#)

## Join our medical policy discussion

We welcome your input and feedback as we draft our medical policies. [Join our email reviewer list](#). While we prefer to receive input as policies are developed, we also have a formal process that allows you to submit additional information, such as clinical trial results, that may warrant a policy review.

## Recent updates and archived medical policies

[Recent updates and archived medical policies](#) may include revisions that will be published in the next issue of *The Bulletin*.

# Reimbursement policies

## Medicare Advantage

**Changes effective January 1, 2024**

### Administrative

- Incident to Services (#148)
  - Added licensed marriage and family therapists (LMFTs) and licensed professional counselors (LPCs) as provider types that may bill incident-to services in accordance with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS's) January 1, 2024, change

[View our Reimbursement Policy Manual](#)

## Join our reimbursement policy discussion

Comments from physicians and other health care professionals regarding reimbursement policies are welcome. If you have a comment regarding a reimbursement policy, please complete the [Reimbursement Policy Feedback Form](#).

## Verify your provider information

Providing up-to-date and accurate information about the providers in each of our networks is critical for our members to access care and a compliance requirement for the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and Medicare Advantage plans.

## Validating provider directory content

Please [follow these steps](#) to review the information about your practice every 90 days. **Please respond timely to any requests from us for verification of your directory data.**

If your clinic or facility submits provider rosters to us, please submit changes, corrections, additions or terminations immediately so we can update our directories as soon as possible. **Your roster must be validated and reviewed in its entirety at least once per quarter.**

We appreciate your assistance in keeping information about your practice up to date.

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