

Laboratory Services

Laboratory services may be performed by a physician (MD, DO, ND or DPM) or a lab tech that is able to do routine testing in the office. Many providers send part or all of their laboratory work to a hospital or independent laboratory.

The provider who performs the analysis of the specimen may bill for laboratory services. Laboratory services are reimbursed according to our medical policy and are paid according to a reimbursement schedule.

The following billing activities are not allowed:

- Billing for services not rendered
- Billing for services performed by another provider or laboratory

Documentation Requirements

- The treating provider must order all laboratory test for a specific medical condition. Test results are used for consultations and to manage the patient's specific medical problem. Tests not ordered by a provider are not considered reasonable and necessary.
- The provider should clearly indicate all tests to be performed (e.g., "run labs" or "check blood" by itself does not support intent to order) when completing progress notes.
- Documentation in the patient's medical record must support the medical necessity for ordering the service.
- The following records need to be available to submit upon request:
 - Progress notes or medical records
 - Physician order or intent to order
 - Laboratory results
 - Attestation or signature log for illegible signatures

Billing guidelines

Please be sure to include the following information:

- Diagnosis
- Name of the referring physician
- Procedure codes and descriptions
- Place of service—defined as where the specimen was drawn or the member-originated service
- **Modifier 90** when sending laboratory specimens to reference laboratories

Services not covered:

- Handling
- Conveyance or stat fees

Non-participating laboratories

Asuris members receive the highest level of benefits when they receive services from participating providers. Benefits are reduced when services are provided by a non-participating or non-network provider. If it is necessary to refer your patient to a non-participating or non-network provider, please notify your patient prior to services being rendered so they are aware that they will incur a higher out-of-pocket cost.

Please use the provider search tool, Find a Doctor on our provider website, **asuris.com** when referring your patient to another provider.

Pathology services

Pathology services are reimbursed using the standard reimbursement schedule. Submit claims for pathology services in the same manner as for laboratory services above.

Additional information about submitting claims is available in the Claims & Payment section of our provider website.