Important Provider Notice

HIGHMARK WHOLECARE

September 1, 2023

PA Medicaid Policy Updates Effective October 1, 2023

An Update for Medicaid Providers and Clinicians

Urgently Reviewed Medical Policy

MP-013-MD-PA Whole Exome and Whole Genome Sequencing for Diagnosis of Genetic Disorders

Per PA DHS: the following CPT codes are no longer considered 'noncovered': 81425, 81426, & 81427. The CPT codes will be considered as an Option #3, and will require a Program Exception for approval. CPT code 81546 has been added and will also be considered as an Option #3 and will require a Program Exception for approval.

Annually Reviewed Medical Policies with Changes

MP-003-MD-PA Fetal Aneuploidy Testing Using Noninvasive Cell-Free Fetal DNA

Removed all clinical criteria that required pregnancy to be high-risk for the testing to be considered medically necessary. Testing will be considered medically necessary for pregnant patients, from > 10 weeks gestational age through the duration of a viable single or twin gestation pregnancy. Updated 'Summary of Literature' and 'References Sources' sections. Removed the following deleted ICD-10 codes: O35.0XX0, O35.0XX1, O35.0XX9, O35.1XX0, O35.1XX1, O35.1XX9.

Annually Reviewed Medical Policies without Changes

MP-061-MD-PA Molecular Tumor Markers for Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC)

No changes to clinical criteria. Updated 'Summary of Literature' and 'Reference Sources' sections.

MP-062-MD-PA BRAF Mutation Analysis

No changes to clinical criteria. Updated 'Summary of Literature' and 'Reference Sources' sections.

MP-065-MD-PA Molecular Markers for Fine Needle Aspirates of Thyroid Nodules

No changes to clinical criteria. Updated 'Summary of Literature' and 'Reference Sources' sections.

MP-050-MD-PA Bronchial Thermoplasty

No changes to clinical criteria. Updated 'Summary of Literature' and 'Reference Sources' sections.

MP-111-MD-PA Endoscopic Ultrasound (EUS) and Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)

No changes to clinical criteria. Updated 'Summary of Literature' and 'Reference Sources' sections.

Health benefits or health benefit administration may be provided by or through Highmark Wholecare, coverage by Gateway Health Plan, an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association (“Highmark Wholecare”).