

PROVIDER BULLETIN

PROVIDER INFORMATION



July 1, 2020

Genetic/Molecular Lab Test Coding Reimbursement Policy

Advancements in the science of genetics and genomics have led to remarkable new options for medical professionals to diagnose, treat, and prevent disease. As increases in genetic and molecular testing continue, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus (Blue Cross) is committed to improving the sustainability of care by ensuring high-quality, appropriate care is delivered at a fair price.

Beginning October 1, 2020, Blue Cross will expand the requirements for billing of genetic and molecular testing. In accordance with the new Blue Cross Reimbursement Policy for Genetic and Molecular Test Coding, all providers billing for genetic and molecular testing services will be required to adhere to the coding recommendations from Concert Genetics, our industry-leading genetic testing technology partner. Billing integrity requirements in the reimbursement policy will be administered on a post-payment review basis by Concert Genetics.

The provider portal can be accessed here: join.concertgenetics.com/bcbismn

List of Impacted Tests Included in Reimbursement Policy (sections in CPT/HCPCS manual):

- Molecular Pathology
- Genomic Sequencing Procedures and Other Molecular Multianalyte Assays
- Multianalyte Assays with Algorithmic Analyses

Products Impacted

This program only applies to fully-insured and self-insured commercial lines of business. Please check the subscriber's benefits and confirm the **in-network** site of service.

Next Steps for Providers:

- Register with Concert Genetics and implement self-reporting quality metrics
- Verify accuracy of test catalog and review coding recommendations and fee schedule
- Utilize Concert Genetics' recommended codes when billing for genetic and molecular tests

Registration:

Please visit the Concert Genetics website (see link above) and submit a registration request. Labs will receive a welcome packet via email from Concert Genetics with an invitation to the Concert Genetics platform, where labs can review and validate the accuracy of their test catalog data and complete the quality questionnaire.

During onboarding, Concert Genetics will work with labs to gather the necessary information to calculate coding recommendations and self-reporting quality metrics. Labs will use the "Report as Inaccurate" feature to report specific test corrections. To assist providers:

- Concert Genetics will provide training materials and other documentation to assist labs with registration
- Concert Genetics will provide online, email, and phone support during and after registration

- For general inquiries, labs are encouraged to connect with a Concert Genetics representative
 - help@concertgenetics.com
 - (855) 435-7643

Reporting and Post-Payment Reviews

Detailed reports will be provided to labs beginning with August 1, 2020 dates of service to help determine where billing adjustments are required.

Beginning with October 1, 2020 dates of service, claims will be reviewed by Concert Genetics on a post-payment basis. Claims that are identified as being billed incorrectly will be denied and recouped by Blue Cross. Providers will be asked to resubmit appropriate claims. Providers may appeal any/all determinations through the standard Blue Cross appeals process.

Pass-Through Billing

Blue Cross currently allows pass through billing for laboratory services but clinics/facilities are strongly encouraged to only bill for laboratory services they provide. If a clinic/facility does bill for a genetic or molecular test performed by an independent laboratory, they should bill in accordance with Concert Genetics' coding recommendation for the performing laboratory and append the 90 modifier. See the Laboratory Services General Guide policy for additional information on the appropriate transaction loops that should be completed.

Reminder Regarding Reimbursement Policies:

This is not a change in medical policy or member benefits, but a change in reimbursement policy. Reimbursement policies are updated on an ongoing basis and used by Blue Cross to define if and how certain claims will be paid for various health care services.

Blue Cross requires that all providers billing for genetic and molecular testing services bill according to the coding recommendation in the Concert Genetics portal. Non-compliance with this policy may result in a written notification from Blue Cross. Continued non-compliance may result in a denied payment or termination of the provider's contract per the terms of the Provider Services Agreement.

To access the reimbursement policy:

Go to providers.bluecrossmn.com

- Under Tools & Resources, select "Reimbursement Policies"
- Locate "Genetic/Molecular Lab Test Coding"

Questions?

If you have questions, please contact provider services at (651) 662-5200 or 1-800-262-0820.

Additional Information (About Concert Genetics):

Concert Genetics (formerly NextGxDx, Inc.) launched in 2010 as a technology company dedicated to enhancing the transparency and efficiency of genetic testing for clinicians, hospitals, laboratories and health insurers. Concert Genetics' mission is to provide tools that connect, unify & simplify the world of genetic testing. To learn more, visit <https://www.concertgenetics.com/>.