

Client Communication

For Your Information (FYI)

Designed to provide informational articles about laboratory testing, FYI serves as a medium for sharing detailed test information. New tests being offered, improvements in methodologies, as well as laboratory policy and regulatory changes are all included in this newsletter. Additionally, FYI routinely features articles that address specific diseases and appropriate utilization of laboratory testing.

Medicare National Coverage Determinations (NCD) Coding Policy Manual

Section 4554(b)(1) of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA), Public Law 105-33, mandated use of a negotiated rule making committee to develop national coverage and administrative policies for clinical diagnostic laboratory services payable under Medicare Part B. The final rule established the national coverage and administrative policies for clinical diagnostic laboratory services payable under Medicare Part B. There are 23 such national coverage determinations included in final rule. The NCD Coding Policy Manual is provided to clients by RWLS in a separate binder. This policy manual lists those circumstances under which test(s) are considered reasonable and necessary, and not screening, for Medicare purposes, by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

NCD Manual Change Report

Printed anytime CMS releases one, this report provides important information regarding coverage changes made to NCD manual.

Special Announcements

Special Announcements are generated any time there is information of a nature that requires immediate communication by RWLS to our clients. Time-sensitive material and immediate changes to the test directory are communicated via a Special Announcement.

Technical Updates

Technical Updates are designed to provide information regarding changes to the test directory. New tests being offered, deletions of tests, as well as changes in methodologies, specimen requirements, reference values, or CPT codes are all included in this report.