



NETWORK *Notification*

Notice Date: October 1, 2021
To: Ohio Marketplace, D-SNP, Medicare, MyCare Laboratory Service Providers (Referring and Servicing)
From: CareSource
Subject: New Laboratory Benefit Management Programs
Effective Date: January 1, 2022

Summary

CareSource is proud to announce our new collaboration with Avalon Healthcare Solutions (Avalon) on new laboratory benefit management programs.

Avalon will be providing **Routine Testing Management (RTM)** and **Genetic Testing Management (GTM)** services for CareSource. Avalon's comprehensive approach includes an RTM component, which is an automated claim review of high-volume, low-cost laboratory tests, provides consistent application of laboratory policies for routine laboratory testing while remaining provider and member friendly and a GTM component which provides pre-service utilization review for genetic testing.

Impact

Effective Jan. 1, 2022:

- **Ohio lines of business included in the program implementation:**
 - Marketplace
 - D-SNP
 - Medicare
 - MyCare
- **New and revised laboratory policies and guidelines** will take effect for selected routine laboratory, services, tests, and procedures. These policies and guidelines will be available for review on **CareSource.com** > Providers > Education > [Laboratory](#), after selecting the applicable state and line of business.
- **Routine Testing Management (RTM) ensures claims will be reviewed for adherence and consistency with CareSource laboratory policies and guidelines.** RTM also considers industry standardized rules, such as but not limited to; evaluating services for being experimental and or investigational; and meeting clinical appropriateness for patient demographics. Additionally, codes reporting multiple units billed will be reviewed for appropriateness to code specific unit allowances under CareSource laboratory policies and guidelines.
 - **Trial Claim Advice Tool**
As an optional tool to support the RTM program and providers with education and training purposes, Avalon has developed a Trial Claim Advice Tool that allows users to simulate

claims submission and adjudication by inserting codes for services, along with related patient diagnoses to determine outcomes in advance of submitting claims. Avalon's Trial Claim Advice tool will review claims with laboratory services for adherence and consistency with CareSource laboratory policies governing the criteria listed above. This is a simulation tool and does not guarantee approval or reimbursement of claims.

Access to the Trial Claim Advice Tool will be available on the CareSource [Provider Portal](#). This tool is not required for claims submission but is an optional tool for providers to gain familiarity with the practical application of the new laboratory policies. Providers will still need to submit actual claims through the CareSource Provider Portal for adjudication and payment.

If providers need assistance using the Trial Claim Advice Tool, they may contact CareSource Provider Services at **1-800-488-0134**.

- **Avalon's pre-service review will be required for all diagnosis codes for Genetic Testing (GTM).** Starting on Jan. 1, 2022, providers can use the [Procedure Code Lookup Tool](#) to check prior authorization requirements.
- Avalon's GTM utilization review and RTM automated policy enforcement will be required by CareSource for laboratory services provided in office, hospital outpatient and independent laboratory locations.
- Laboratory services, tests and procedures provided in the emergency room, hospital observation, and hospital inpatient settings are **excluded** from this program.
- Avalon's GTM utilization review and RTM's automated policy enforcement is designed to ensure the consistent application of CareSource laboratory policies and guidelines to claims and reviews for all laboratory services.
- Providers will need to submit preservice requests for GTM through Avalon's portal, which can be accessed via secure single sign on (SSO) from CareSource's Provider Portal. Requests can also be submitted by fax or phone at 1-844-227-5769.

In the coming weeks CareSource will send additional email correspondence further explaining the new program as well as announcing provider education opportunities.

Importance

CareSource values your partnership as we work together to improve health every day, providing quality care and better health care outcomes for our shared customers. If you have questions about any of this information, please contact CareSource Provider Services at:

- Marketplace: **1-800-488-0134**
- D-SNP: **1-833-230-2176**
- Medicare: **1-844-679-7865**
- MyCare: **1-800-488-0134**

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