Medical Policy

Gene Expression Profiling of Tumor Tissue to Predict Cancer Recurrence and Risk Stratification (Including Oncotype DX™ and Other Tests)

Policy Number: OCA 3.572  
Version Number: 13  
Version Effective Date: 07/01/17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Applicability</th>
<th>□ All Plan+ Products</th>
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</table>
| Well Sense Health Plan | □ New Hampshire Medicaid  
□ NH Health Protection Program |
| Boston Medical Center HealthNet Plan | □ MassHealth  
□ Qualified Health Plans/ConnectorCare/Employer Choice Direct  
□ Senior Care Options ◊ |

Notes:
+ Disclaimer and audit information is located at the end of this document.  
◊ The guidelines included in this Plan policy are applicable to members enrolled in Senior Care Options only if there are no criteria established for the specified service in a Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) national coverage determination (NCD) or local coverage determination (LCD) on the date of the prior authorization request. Review the member’s product-specific benefit documents at www.SeniorsGetMore.org to determine coverage guidelines for Senior Care Options.

Policy Summary

The Plan considers Oncotype DX™ gene expression profiling of tumor tissue to predict breast cancer recurrence to be medically necessary for all members (regardless of gender) when medical criteria are met. Plan prior authorization is required for all molecular and chromosomal genetic testing (including all gene expression profiling tests), except for prenatal genetic screening tests for a member with one of the pregnancy diagnosis codes specified in the Applicable Coding section of the Genetic Testing Guidelines and Pharmacogenetics medical policy (policy number OCA 3.7272), Gene Expression Profiling of Tumor Tissue to Predict Cancer Recurrence and Risk Stratification (Including Oncotype DX™ and Other Tests)

* Plan refers to Boston Medical Center Health Plan, Inc. and its affiliates and subsidiaries offering health coverage plans to enrolled members. The Plan operates in Massachusetts under the trade name Boston Medical Center HealthNet Plan and in other states under the trade name Well Sense Health Plan.
Chromosomal Microarray Analysis for Unexplained Intellectual Disabilities and/or Multiple Congenital Anomalies medical policy (policy number OCA 3.573), or Genetic Testing for Fragile X-Associated Disorders medical policy (policy number OCA 3.571) when applicable Plan criteria are met. Biochemical genetic tests used to study the amount or activity level of proteins to indicate changes to the DNA require prior authorization only when the test is included in the Applicable Coding section of a Plan genetic testing medical policy. It will be determined during the Plan’s prior authorization process if the service is considered medically necessary for the requested indication. See the Plan policy, Medically Necessary (policy number OCA 3.14), for the product-specific definitions of medically necessary treatment.

The Plan only covers gene expression profiling testing of tumor tissue for breast cancer recurrence with the Oncotype DX™; the use of Oncotype DX™ for any other indication, to predict recurrence with tumor tissue for any other type of cancer, or when Plan criteria are not met is considered investigational. Other types of gene expression profiling tests of tumor tissue used to predict breast cancer recurrence and/or the use of profiling tests of tumor tissue to predict other types of cancer recurrence or risk stratification are considered investigational. See Plan policy, Genetic Testing Guidelines and Pharmacogenetics (policy number OCA 3.727), for applicable medical criteria related to gene expression testing of tumor tissue to predict response to drug therapy and treatment, the use of protein biomarkers (using diagnostic blood tests, urine tests, or other testing methods such as immunofluorescence and automated quantitative images of biopsy tissue) to predict cancer recurrence or risk stratification based on an established algorithm, and/or genetic testing to classify a tumor into a main cancer type and subtype to identify the primary tissue of origin in a member when there is clinical uncertainty of a tumor’s primary origin. Review the Plan policy, Experimental and Investigational Treatment (policy number OCA 3.12), for the product-specific definitions of experimental and investigational treatment.

The Plan supports the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) guidelines for genetic counseling for all genetic tests conducted with Plan members; NCCN recommends that adequate pre-test and post-test genetic counseling be provided by a health care professional with expertise in genetics. Genetic counseling provided to a Plan member (and/or guardian if the member is under the age of 18) should be documented in the member’s medical record and conducted by an appropriately trained practitioner with expertise and experience in genetics, including a provider acting within the scope of the practitioner’s license and practice, clinical geneticist, or genetic counselor.

Plan prior authorization is required for all molecular and chromosomal genetic testing, except for prenatal genetic screening tests when the member is pregnant (as specified in the Applicable Coding section of this policy) and Plan criteria are met. See the following Plan policies for additional prior authorization guidelines for genetic testing available at www.bmchp.org for BMC HealthNet Plan members (or at www.SeniorsGetMore.org for Senior Care Options members) and www.wellsense.org for Well Sense Health Plan members:
1. Chromosomal Microarray Analysis for Unexplained Intellectual Disabilities and/or Multiple Congenital Anomalies, policy number OCA 3.573

2. Genetic Testing for Familial Malignant Melanoma, policy number OCA 3.78

3. Genetic Testing for Fragile X-Associated Disorders, policy number OCA 3.571

4. Genetic Testing Guidelines and Pharmacogenetics, policy number OCA 3.727

5. Genetic Testing for Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Syndrome, policy number OCA 3.57

6. Genetic Testing for Hereditary Colorectal Cancer, policy number OCA 3.64

7. Genetic Testing for Hereditary Thrombophilia, policy number OCA 3.728

8. Preimplantation Genetic Testing (Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis and Pregenetic Screening), policy number OCA 3.726

Description of Item or Service

Gene Expression Profiling/Genomic Assay: A laboratory test that measures the expression of a group of genes and translates the gene expression information into a risk score for a given disease or condition (e.g., recurrence of primary breast cancer). Genetic tests can estimate an individuals’ risk of developing a disease in the future. Gene expression tests measure the activity of RNA in a tissue or bodily fluid at a given point in time to provide information on the individual’s current disease state, predict an individual’s response to treatment, or predict the likelihood of future disease with risk stratification; RNA levels change over time based on pathological conditions and environmental signals.

Oncotype DX™ Breast Cancer Assay: A multiple gene expression assay of 21 genes performed on tumor tissue from individuals with newly diagnosed, early-stage (stage 1 or II), estrogen receptor positive (ER+), node negative (N-) breast cancer to predict the risk of recurrence. The assay is used to guide use of adjuvant tamoxifen and adjuvant chemotherapy. Formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded (FFPE) tumor samples are analyzed, measuring the messenger (mRNA) expression levels of 16 genes which are markers for proliferation and recurrence; test results are used to quantify the probability of breast cancer recurrence. Oncotype DX™ Breast Cancer Assay is developed by Genomic Health Inc. and is intended as a prognostic test and as a predictive test for response to chemotherapy for individuals with targeted types of breast cancer.

Medical Policy Statement

The Plan considers Oncotype DX™ (Genomic Health) gene expression profiling of tumor tissue to predict breast cancer recurrence to be medically necessary for all members (regardless of gender)
when ALL of the following criteria are met and documented in the medical record, as specified below in items 1 through 6:

1. The Oncotype DX™ is ordered by the physician supervising the adjuvant therapy; AND

2. Tumor is unilateral and non-fixed; AND

3. Disease is stage I or II; AND

4. There is no evidence of distant metastatic breast cancer; AND

5. The member is a candidate for adjuvant chemotherapy and testing is being done specifically to guide the decision as to whether or not adjuvant chemotherapy will be used; AND

6. The tumor has ALL of the following characteristics based on post-operative pathological evaluation, as specified below in items a through h:

   a. Tumor is ONE (1) of the following types, as specified below in items (1) through (4):

      (1) Infiltrating ductal; OR

      (2) Infiltrating lobular; OR

      (3) Metaplastic; OR

      (4) Mixed; AND

   b. Histology of tumor is not tubular or colloid; AND

   c. Lymph node status meets ONE (1) of the following criteria, as specified below in items (1) through (3):

      (1) Axillary-node negative; OR

      (2) Axillary-node micrometastasis is no greater than 2.0 millimeters; OR

      (3) 1 to 3 involved ipsilateral axillary lymph nodes to guide the addition or combination chemotherapy to standard hormone therapy; AND

   d. Tumor size is greater than 0.5 cm in diameter; AND
e. Tumor is unifocal; AND

f. Hormone receptor positive (i.e., estrogen receptor positive [ER+] AND/OR progesterone receptor positive [PR+]); AND

g. Human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2/neu) negative; AND

h. Tumor is not a pT4 lesion

**Limitations**

1. Repeat Oncotype DX™ testing and/or testing of multiple tumor sites in the same person are not considered medically necessary.

2. Oncotype DX™ testing for indications other than those listed in the Medical Policy Statement section is NOT considered medically necessary (e.g., Oncotype DX™ Colon Cancer Assay by Genomic Health Inc. and Oncotype DX™ Genomic Prostate Score Cancer Assay by Genomic Health Inc.).

3. Oncotype DX™ testing for the prognosis of recurrence of ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS) breast cancer is NOT considered medically necessary.

4. The Oncotype DX™ is the only test considered medically necessary for gene expression profiling of breast cancer tissue when Plan criteria are met; other gene expression profiling tests of breast cancer tissue are considered either investigational or not medically necessary as an alternative to Oncotype DX, including but not limited to BluePrint™/BluePrint Molecular Subtyping Signature (Agendia Inc.), Breast Cancer Index BCI (bioTheranostics Inc.), Ki-67 (MKI67) proliferation marker testing (by ARUP Laboratories, Baylor College of Medicine, Laboratory Corporation of America, and Quest Diagnostics Inc.), MammaPrint 70-Gene Breast Cancer Recurrence Assay (Agendia Inc.), and/or the Prosigna™ Breast Cancer Prognostic Gene Signature Assay (NanoString Technologies Inc.).

5. Other types of gene expression profiling tests of tumor tissue used to predict recurrence of any type of cancer and/or determine risk stratification (including gene expression analysis using a proprietary risk classifier to categorize indeterminate lesions or tumors, as determined from biopsy specimen) are considered investigational based on the guidelines in this Plan policy. Examples of these investigational tests include Afirma Thyroid FNA Analysis (Veracyte Inc.), DecisionDx-GBM™ (Castle Biosciences Inc.) for glioblastoma multiforme, DecisionDx-Mesothelioma™ (Castle Biosciences Inc.) for malignant pleural mesothelioma, Decipher® for prostatic cancer, DecisionDx-Melanoma™ (Castle Biosciences Inc.) for melanoma, DecisionDx-Thymoma™ (Castle Biosciences Inc.) for thymoma, DecisionDx-UM™ (Castle Biosciences Inc.) for uveal melanoma, MyPRS™ Plus (Signal Genetics LLC) for myeloma, Prolaris® for prostate cancer,
Gene Expression Profiling of Tumor Tissue to Predict Cancer Recurrence and Risk Stratification (Including Oncotype DX™ and Other Tests)

See the Plan’s Genomic Testing Guidelines and Pharmacogenetics medical policy (policy number OCA 3.727) rather than this policy for applicable medical criteria related to gene expression testing to predict response to drug therapy and treatment, genetic testing using blood or urine specimens (rather than testing of tumor tissue) to predict cancer recurrence or risk stratification based on an established algorithm, and/or genetic testing to classify a tumor into a main cancer type and subtype to identify the primary tissue of origin in a member when there is clinical uncertainty of a tumor’s primary origin (rather than the use of a proprietary risk classifier of indeterminate lesions or tumors). Review additional, applicable Plan medical policies related to genetic testing (as specified at the end of this policy and posted at www.bmchp.org for BMC HealthNet Plan members and at www.wellsense.org for Well Sense Health Plan members).

Definitions

**Breast Cancer Staging:**

1. **Stage I:** Early stage cancer that is less than 2 cm wide and hasn't spread beyond the breast.

2. **Stage II:** Early stage cancer in which the tumor is: no larger than 2 cm wide and has spread to the lymph nodes under the arm, between 2 and 5 cm wide and may or may not have spread to the lymph nodes under the arm, or larger than 5 cm and hasn't spread outside the breast.

3. **Stage III:** Locally advanced breast cancer in which the tumor is: greater than 5 cm wide and has spread to the lymph nodes under the arm, extensive in the underarm lymph nodes, or spreading to lymph nodes near the breastbone or to other tissues near the breast. (Note: Recurrent breast cancer or bilateral breast cancer is categorized as stage III or stage IV according to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network.)

4. **Stage IV:** Metastatic breast cancer that has spread outside the breast to other organs in the body, such as the bones, lungs, liver, or brain. (Note: Recurrent breast cancer or bilateral breast cancer is categorized as stage III or stage IV according to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network.)

**Fluorescence In Situ Hybridization (FISH):** A test that maps specific genes or portions of genes. FISH testing is done on breast cancer tissue removed during biopsy to see if the cells have extra copies of the HER2 gene. The more copies of the HER2 gene that are present, the more HER2 receptors the cells have. These HER2 receptors receive signals that stimulate the growth of breast cancer cells. The FISH test results will determine if the cancer is either “positive” or “negative” (a result sometimes reported as “zero”) for HER2. Generally, the FISH test is not as widely available as another method of HER2 testing, called immunohistochemistry, or IHC. However, FISH is considered more accurate. In many
cases, a lab will do the IHC test first, ordering FISH only if the IHC results don’t clearly show whether the cells are HER2-positive or negative.

**Formalin Fixed Paraffin-Embedded (FFPE) Tumor Tissue:** Tissue samples derived from tissues (usually suspected tumor samples) that are fixed with formalin to preserve the cytoskeletal and protein structure and then embedded in a type of paraffin wax so the tissue can be sliced on a microtome, an instrument used to prepare very thin slices. Formalin irreversibly cross-links proteins via the amino groups thus preserving the structural integrity of the cells so they can be stained with dyes used to analyze for abnormalities in the tissue that indicate cancer.

**Genetic Testing:** According to U.S. Library of Medicine, genetic testing is defined as a type of medical test that identifies changes in chromosomes, genes, or proteins. The results of a genetic test can confirm or rule out a suspected genetic condition or help determine a person’s chance of developing or passing on a genetic disorder. More than 1,000 genetic tests are currently in use, and more are being developed. Several methods can be used for genetic testing:

1. Molecular genetic tests (or gene tests) study single genes or short lengths of DNA to identify variations or mutations that lead to a genetic disorder.
2. Chromosomal genetic tests analyze whole chromosomes to see if there are large genetic changes, such as an extra copy of a chromosome or missing DNA, that cause a genetic condition.
3. Biochemical genetic tests study the amount or activity level of proteins; abnormalities in either can indicate changes to the DNA that result in a genetic disorder.

**Immunohistochemistry (IHC):** A special staining process performed on fresh or frozen breast cancer tissue removed during biopsy. IHC is used to show whether or not the cancer cells have HER2 receptors and/or hormone receptors on their surface. This information plays a critical role in treatment planning. The IHC test gives a score of 0 to 3+ that measures the amount of HER2 receptor protein on the surface of cells in a breast cancer tissue sample. If the score is 0 to 1+, it’s called “HER2 negative.” If the score is 2+, it’s called “borderline.” A score of 3+ is called “HER2 positive.”

**Multigene Panel Tests:** Tests that evaluate more than one (1) gene simultaneously to detect changes in gene expression most commonly associated with certain diseases and other genes that may have limited evidence of an association to the disorder. Multigene panel tests may involve traditional exon-by-exon sequencing of targeted genes to identify genetic variants or use next-generation sequencing. Each laboratory establishes its own set of criteria for selecting the genes represented in a panel, even when panels are used for the same or similar clinical indications. The lack of regulatory oversight of genetic testing means that laboratories can change the components of a panel at any time, making it difficult to evaluate the clinical utility of multigene panel tests. See the Genetic Testing Guidelines and Pharmacogenetics medical policy (policy number OCA 3.727) rather than this policy for Plan guidelines related to multigene panel testing.

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**pT4 Pathologic Staging of Breast Tumor:** Breast tumor of any size with direct extension to chest wall or skin. Clinical information may be required to designate a tumor as pT4. Dermal invasion alone (without ulceration, satellite nodules, or inflammatory breast cancer) does not alter T category; such cases are classified as T1, T2, or T3, depending on tumor size. pT4 is categorized as:

1. **pT4a:** Extension to chest wall, not including pectoralis muscle
2. **pT4b:** Edema (including peau d’orange) or ulceration of the skin of the breast or satellite skin nodules confined to the same breast
3. **pT4c:** Both T4a and T4b
4. **pT4d:** Inflammatory carcinoma

**Whole Exome Sequencing (WES)/ Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS):** Sequencing the protein coding regions (called exons) of all of an individual’s genes (known as the exome). While exons represent only 1% of the genome, they account for approximately 85% of disease-causing variants. Through identification of variants across the exome, WES avoids the need to run multiple single-gene tests, which require prior information about variants affecting the disease. WES has been performed in a number of cancers, whereby comparison between tumor DNA and normal DNA from the same individual allows identification of variants specific to the tumor, which may provide information used for diagnosis and treatment. WES is targeted sequencing of the subset of the human genome that contains functionally important sequences of protein-coding DNA, while whole genome sequencing (WGS) uses next-generation sequencing techniques to sequence both coding and non-coding regions of the genome. See the Genetic Testing Guidelines and Pharmacogenetics medical policy (policy number OCA 3.727) rather than this policy for Plan guidelines related to WES and WGS.

**Applicable Coding**

The Plan uses and adopts up-to-date Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes from the American Medical Association (AMA), International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th revision (ICD-10) diagnosis codes developed by the World Health Organization and adapted in the United Stated by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) of the Centers for Disease Control under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the Health Care Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) established and maintained by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Because the AMA, NCHS, and CMS may update codes more frequently or at different intervals than Plan policy updates, the list of applicable codes included in this Plan policy is for informational purposes only, may not be all inclusive, and is subject to change without prior notification. Whether a code is listed in the Applicable Coding section of this Plan policy does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement. Providers are responsible for reporting all services using the most up-to-date industry-standard procedure and diagnosis codes as published by the AMA, NCHS, and CMS at the time of the service.
Gene Expression Profiling of Tumor Tissue to Predict Cancer Recurrence and Risk Stratification (Including Oncotype DX™ and Other Tests)

Providers are responsible for obtaining prior authorization for the services specified in the Medical Policy Statement section and Limitation section of this Plan policy, even if an applicable code appropriately describing the service that is the subject of this Plan policy is not included in the Applicable Coding section of this Plan policy. Coverage for services is subject to benefit eligibility under the member’s benefit plan. Please refer to the member’s benefits document in effect at the time of the service to determine coverage or non-coverage as it applies to an individual member. See Plan reimbursement policies for Plan billing guidelines. Review the Plan’s policy, Genetic Testing Guidelines and Pharmacogenetics, policy number OCA 3.727, for additional guidelines regarding genetic testing. **Plan prior authorization is required for all molecular and chromosomal genetic testing unless otherwise specified in an applicable Plan medical policy.**

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<th>CPT Code</th>
<th>Description: Code Covered When Medically Necessary</th>
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<td>81519</td>
<td>Oncology (breast), mRNA, gene expression profiling by real-time RT-PCR of 21 genes, utilizing formalin-fixed paraffin embedded tissue, algorithm reported as recurrence score</td>
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<td>Plan note: Use this code when billing for the Oncotype DX™ Breast Cancer Assay.</td>
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<th>HCPCS Code</th>
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<td>S3854</td>
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<td>Plan note: Use this code when billing for all gene expression profiling tests of breast cancer tissue except the Oncotype DX™ Breast Cancer Assay.</td>
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**Clinical Background Information**

Oncotype DX™ Breast Cancer Assay is used to quantify the likelihood of distant recurrence in an individual with breast cancer, and can be helpful in determining whether or not a patient is a candidate for chemotherapy. The test is recommended to be conducted after the original breast cancer surgery. RNA is extracted from the tumor tissue, purified and analyzed for expression of a panel of 21 genes using quantitative reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) on formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tumor tissue. The score is calculated from the gene expression results using a proprietary Oncotype DX™ algorithm and is based on a scale of 0–100. A score of less than 18 is considered low.
risk, a score between 18 and 31 is intermediate risk, and a score over 31 is high risk. Each score correlates with a specific likelihood of distant recurrence at 10 years.

The MammaPrint® (Agendia Inc.) assay uses a microarray technology platform to analyze the expression of 70 genes from tumor samples that are fresh frozen or placed in an RNA molecular fixative solution provided in a kit from the manufacturer. Agendia now accepts formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded (FFPE) specimens for analysis as well as fresh frozen samples. In the United States, the MammaPrint® assay is intended for patients with breast cancer who are stage I or II, are lymph node negative, and have a tumor size < 5.0 centimeters (cm). Additional indications for MammaPrint® used outside of the United States include patients who are either estrogen receptor positive (ER+) or negative (ER-) and patients who are either lymph node positive or negative. Currently, the Plan considers this test to not be medically necessary as an alternative to Oncotype DX™ (the 21-gene assay). According to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Version 1.2016 Breast Cancer Guidelines, “the NCCN Panel members acknowledge that many assays, including PAM50 and MammaPrint, have been clinically validated for prediction of prognosis. However, based on the current available data, the panel believes that the 21-gene assay has been best-validated for its use as a prognostic test as well as in predicting who is most likely to respond to systemic chemotherapy.”

The BluePrint® molecular subtyping profile is an 80-gene expression profile that is designed to characterize breast tumors as basal-type, luminal-type, and ERBB2 (commonly referred to as HER2/neu)-type breast cancers. The manufacture (Agendia Inc.) claims that BluePrint® complements the MammaPrint® to allow for a more refined prediction of distant recurrence in patients at increased risk of recurrence by MammaPrint® and validates the prediction of low risk or recurrence by MammaPrint®. The Plan considers this test experimental and investigational.

Prosigna™ Breast Cancer Prognostic Gene Signature Assay (NanoString Technologies Inc.) is used with female breast cancer patients (as defined by the manufacturer) who have undergone surgery in conjunction with locoregional treatment consistent with standard of care. The test is a prognostic indicator for distant recurrence–free survival at 10 years in postmenopausal women (as defined by the manufacturer) with hormone receptor positive (HR+), lymph node negative or lymph node positive (up to 1-3 positive nodes), stage I or II breast cancer to be treated with adjuvant endocrine therapy alone, when used in conjunction with other clinicopathological factors. The Plan considers the test investigational at this time. Prosigna is performed using messenger RNA (mRNA) isolated from formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded (FFPE) breast tumor specimens or tissue slides. The set of 46 genes included in the assay is based upon PAM50, a 50-gene expression classifier that distinguishes between intrinsic breast cancer tissue subtypes that are associated with different rates of recurrence.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) only regulates genetic tests sold as kits and has practiced enforcement discretion for laboratory-developed tests (LDTs), which represent the majority of genetic tests marketed in the United States. While the Centers of Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) does regulation the clinical laboratories in which LDTs are performed, CMS does not evaluate whether the genetic tests are clinically meaningful.

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At the time of the Plan’s most recent policy review, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has implemented the following national coverage determinations (NCDs) related to genetic tests: NCD for Colorectal Cancer Screening Tests (210.3) for coverage of immunoassay and guaiac fecal occult blood tests and the Cologuard™ - Multitarget Stool DNA (sDNA) test when CMS applicable criteria are met, NCD for Pharmacogenomic Testing for Warfarin Response (90.1) for medically necessary indications for testing as determined by CMS, and NCD for Cytogenetic Studies (190.3) for coverage based on CMS guidelines. Medicare uses a combination of national and local coverage determinations for making coverage decisions for genetic tests. Medicare administrative contractors (MAC) may implement local coverage determinations (LCDs) that apply only within their own jurisdictions. Verify if applicable CMS criteria are in effect (through an NCD, LCD, or other CMS guidelines) for the specified genetic test, product name, site-specific gene analysis, and the indication for testing on the date of the prior authorization request for a Senior Care Options member.

References


Gene Expression Profiling of Tumor Tissue to Predict Cancer Recurrence and Risk Stratification (Including Oncotype DX™ and Other Tests)

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Hayes Genetic Test Evaluation Overview. Afirma Thyroid FNA Analysis Test for Thyroid Cancer (Veracyte Inc.). Winifred Hayes, Inc. April 16, 2014.


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Gene Expression Profiling of Tumor Tissue to Predict Cancer Recurrence and Risk Stratification (Including Oncotype DX™ and Other Tests)
**Original Approval Date** | **Original Effective Date* and Version Number** | **Policy Owner** | **Original Policy Approved by**
---|---|---|---
Regulatory Approval: N/A  
Internal Approval:  
10/19/11: MPCTAC  
11/29/11: QIC | 02/01/12  
Version 1 | Medical Policy Manager  
as Chair of Medical Policy,  
Criteria, and Technology  
Assessment Committee (MPCTAC)  
and member of  
Quality Improvement  
Committee (QIC) | MPCTAC and QIC

*Effective Date for the BMC HealthNet Plan Commercial Product(s): 01/01/12  
*Effective Date for the Well Sense Heath Plan New Hampshire Medicaid Product(s): 01/01/13  
*Effective Date for the Senior Care Options Product(s): 01/01/16

### Policy Revisions History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Review Date</th>
<th>Summary of Revisions</th>
<th>Revision Effective Date and Version Number</th>
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| 07/01/12 | Off cycle review of Well Sense Health Plan, revised Summary section, reformatted Medical Policy Statement section, deleted diagnosis codes, and revised language in Applicable Coding section. | Version 2 | 08/03/12: MPCAC  
09/05/12: QIC |
| 09/01/12 | Review for effective date 01/01/13. Revised policy title, specified in Summary section that Plan prior authorization is required and referenced the Plan’s *Medically Necessary* policy and the *Experimental and Investigational Treatment* policy, updated language in Applicable Coding section, removed diagnosis codes because diagnosis codes do not change prior authorization requirement, updated and added references. Added limitation on testing of multiple tumor sites in the same person. | 01/01/13  
Version 3 | 09/19/12: MPCTAC  
10/24/12: QIC |
| 08/14/13 and 08/15/13 | Off cycle review for Well Sense Health Plan and merged policy format. Incorporate policy revisions dated 09/01/12 (as specified above) for the Well Sense Health Plan product; these | Version 4 | 08/14/13: MPCTAC  
(electronic vote)  
08/15/13: QIC |

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<table>
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<tr>
<td>10/01/13</td>
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<td>02/01/14</td>
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<td>11/21/13: QIC</td>
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<td>07/01/14</td>
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<td>Review for effective date 03/01/15. Revised Summary, Description of Item</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/01/14,</td>
<td>or Service, Clinical Background Information, and References sections.</td>
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<td>11/12/14: QIC</td>
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<td>12/01/14</td>
<td>Updated criteria in the Medical Policy Statement and Limitations sections.</td>
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<td>Revised title to include “Risk Stratification.” Added CPT code 81519 as</td>
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<td>(electronic vote)</td>
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<td>an applicable code.</td>
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<td>11/25/15</td>
<td>Review for effective date 01/01/16. Updated template with list of</td>
<td>01/01/16</td>
<td>Version 8</td>
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<td>applicable products and notes. Revised language in the Applicable Coding</td>
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<td>Annual review for effective date 05/01/16. Revised criteria in the</td>
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<td>Description of Item or Service, Clinical Background Information, and</td>
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<td>References sections. Revised the applicable code list.</td>
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<td>07/01/16</td>
<td>Industry-wide addition of applicable HCPCS code S3854 effective 07/01/16.</td>
<td>07/01/16</td>
<td>Version 10</td>
<td>Not applicable because</td>
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<td>clarify language related to gender.</td>
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<td>Review for effective date 02/01/17. Revisited the Summary, Definitions,</td>
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Gene Expression Profiling of Tumor Tissue to Predict Cancer Recurrence and Risk Stratification (Including Oncotype DX™ and Other Tests)

Plan refers to Boston Medical Center Health Plan, Inc. and its affiliates and subsidiaries offering health coverage plans to enrolled members. The Plan operates in Massachusetts under the trade name Boston Medical Center HealthNet Plan and in other states under the trade name Well Sense Health Plan.
Reference to Applicable Laws and Regulations


Disclaimer Information: +

Medical Policies are the Plan’s guidelines for determining the medical necessity of certain services or supplies for purposes of determining coverage. These Policies may also describe when a service or supply is considered experimental or investigational, or cosmetic. In making coverage decisions, the Plan uses these guidelines and other Plan Policies, as well as the Member’s benefit document, and when appropriate, coordinates with the Member’s health care Providers to consider the individual Member’s health care needs.

Plan Policies are developed in accordance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations, and accrediting organization standards (including NCQA). Medical Policies are also developed, as appropriate, with consideration of the medical necessity definitions in various Plan products, review of current literature, consultation with practicing Providers in the Plan’s service area who are medical experts in the particular field, and adherence to FDA and other government agency policies. Applicable state or federal mandates, as well as the Member’s benefit document, take precedence over these guidelines. Policies are reviewed and updated on an annual basis, or more frequently as needed. Treating providers are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of Members.

The use of this Policy is neither a guarantee of payment nor a final prediction of how a specific claim(s) will be adjudicated. Reimbursement is based on many factors, including member eligibility and benefits on the date of service; medical necessity; utilization management guidelines (when applicable); coordination of benefits; adherence with applicable Plan policies and procedures; clinical coding criteria; claim editing logic; and the applicable Plan – Provider agreement.