

# Provider Update

## Provider manual update: Tennessee laboratory testing policy change

**Summary:** All clinical and anatomic laboratory services not performed in a physician's office must be sent to Quest or LabCorp, or to a participating independent reference laboratory listed in our provider referral directory to ensure these services are directed to the most appropriate setting. This Amerigroup Community Care policy update applies to all participating physicians and health care professionals, and it applies to all outpatient clinical and anatomic laboratory services ordered by physicians and health care professionals, except for laboratory services provided by physicians in their offices.

★ **What this means to you:** Providers may continue to perform laboratory testing in their offices but they must refer outpatient, diagnostic laboratory tests, both clinical and anatomic, to a participating independent reference laboratory. You can find a list of participating laboratories in our provider referral directory at [providers.amerigroup.com/TN](http://providers.amerigroup.com/TN).

### **What is the impact of this change?**

Physicians and health care professionals who refer Amerigroup lab specimens to a hospital or nonparticipating laboratory must use one of our participating independent reference laboratories. These participating independent laboratories provide a comprehensive range of laboratory services in a timely manner to meet the needs of the physicians and health care professionals participating in Amerigroup. Participating independent laboratories also provide clinical data and related information to support HEDIS® reporting, care management, the Amerigroup Provider Quality Incentive program and other clinical quality improvement activities.

In the rare circumstance that you require a specific STAT laboratory test for which no participating laboratory is available, a Tennessee hospital may perform any of the specific outpatient STAT lab services listed below:

Procedure code	Description
80100	Coma panel
80202	Vancomycin
82374	Carbon dioxide (CO2)
82436	Chloride
84300	Sodium
84484	Troponin I

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<b>Procedure code</b>	<b>Description</b>
84600	Volatiles (alcohol, ethanol, isopropanol, methanol)
85014	Hematocrit
80048	Basic metabolic panel
80051	Electrolyte panel
80156	Carbamazepine; total
80162	Digoxin
80164	Dipropylacetic acid
80178	Lithium
80184	Phenobarbital
80185	Phenytoin; total
80198	Theophylline
81000	Urinalysis, by dip stick or tablet reagent, for bilirubin, glucose, etc.; nonautomated w/microscopy
81002	Urinalysis, by dip stick or tablet reagent, for bilirubin, glucose, hemoglobin, ketones and leukocytes
81025	Urine pregnancy test by visual color comparison methods
82055	Alcohol (any specimen except breath)
82150	Amylase
82247	Bilirubin; total
82310	Calcium; total
82550	Creatine kinase; total
82565	Creatinine; blood
82670	Estradiol
82947	Glucose; quantitative blood
83045	Hemoglobin; methemoglobin qualitative
83050	Hemoglobin; methemoglobin quantitative
84132	Potassium; serum
84520	Urea nitrogen; quantitative
84702	Gonadotropin chorionic; quantitative
84703	Gonadotropin chorionic; qualitative
85022	Blood count – Hemogram, automated, and manual differential WBC count
85025	Blood count – Complete, automated, and automated differential WBC count
85590	Platelet; manual count
85595	Platelet; automated count
85610	Prothrombin time
85730	Thromboplastin time partial; plasma/whole blood
86308	Heterophile antibodies; screening
87205	Smear, primary source, with interpretation; Gram/Giemsa stain
85651	Sedimentation rate, erythrocyte; nonautomated
86140	C-reactive protein

86880	Coombs test direct
86900	Blood typing abo
86901	Blood typing rh (d)

Additional exceptions include lab services:

- Rendered in a physician or health care professional's office
- Rendered in an emergency room setting
- Rendered in conjunction with ambulatory surgery services
- Rendered in conjunction with 23-hour observation services
- Billed with the following chemotherapy, OB and sickle cell diagnosis codes: V58.11-V58.12, 140.0-149.9, 150.0-159.9, 160.0-165.9, 170.0-176.9, 179, 180.0-189.9, 190.0-199.2, 200.00-208.99, 230.0-239.9, 630, 631, 632, 633.00-633.91, 634.00-634.92, 639.0-639.9, 640.00-669.94, V22.0-V24.2, 282.41-282.69

Any laboratory services not on the STAT lab list above performed by a Tennessee hospital or nonparticipating laboratory will be denied with the following: **Service billed not on Amerigroup approved STAT lab list.**

**What if I need assistance?**

If you have questions about this communication, received this fax in error or need assistance with any other item, contact your local Provider Relations representative or call Provider Services at 1-800-454-3730.