

HOTLINE: Effective **October 5, 2020**

MEDICARE COVERAGE OF LABORATORY TESTING

Please remember when ordering laboratory tests that are billed to Medicare/Medicaid or other federally funded programs, the following requirements apply:

1. Only tests that are medically necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of the patient should be ordered. Medicare does not pay for screening tests except for certain specifically approved procedures and may not pay for non-FDA approved tests or those tests considered experimental.
2. If there is reason to believe that Medicare will not pay for a test, the patient should be informed. The patient should then sign an Advance Beneficiary Notice (ABN) to indicate that he or she is responsible for the cost of the test if Medicare denies payment.
3. The ordering physician must provide an ICD-10 diagnosis code or narrative description, if required by the fiscal intermediary or carrier.
4. Organ- or disease-related panels should be billed only when all components of the panel are medically necessary.
5. Both ARUP- and client-customized panels should be billed to Medicare only when every component of the customized panel is medically necessary.
6. Medicare National Limitation Amounts for CPT codes are available through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) or its intermediaries. Medicaid reimbursement will be equal to or less than the amount of Medicare reimbursement.

The CPT Code(s) for test(s) profiled in this bulletin are for informational purposes only. The codes reflect our interpretation of CPT coding requirements, based upon AMA guidelines published annually. CPT codes are provided only as guidance to assist you in billing. ARUP strongly recommends that clients reconfirm CPT code information with their local intermediary or carrier. CPT coding is the sole responsibility of the billing party.

The regulations described above are only guidelines. Additional procedures may be required by your fiscal intermediary or carrier.

Hotline Page #	Test Number	Summary of Changes by Test Name	Name Change	Methodology	Performed/Reported Schedule	Specimen Requirements	Reference Interval	Interpretive Data	Note	CPT Code	Component Change	Other Interface Change	New Test	Inactive
2	2006297	<i>Borrelia</i> Species by PCR (Lyme Disease), Tick				x								
3	2010979	Cerdelga® (eliglustat) Panel, Peak Levels												x
2	2006328	Glutathione Total				x								
2	0091229	Silver, Whole Blood			x									

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[2006297](#)

Borrelia Species by PCR (Lyme Disease), Tick

LYME TICK

Specimen Required: Collect: Deer tick

Specimen Preparation: Transfer one deer tick in 70 percent ethanol to an ARUP Standard Transport Tube.

Test is not performed at ARUP; separate specimens must be submitted when multiple tests are ordered.

Storage/Transport Temperature: Room temperature.

Unacceptable Conditions: Specimens submitted in formalin.

Stability (collection to initiation of testing): Ambient: 2 weeks; Refrigerated: 2 weeks; Frozen: 2 weeks

[2006328](#)

Glutathione Total

GLUT TOT

Specimen Required: Collect: Yellow top (ACD Solution B) (ARUP supply #49658) or Yellow (ACD Solution A). Available online through eSupply using ARUP Connect™ or contact ARUP Client Services at (800) 522-2787.

Specimen Preparation: Transport 10 mL or 8 mL blood in original collection container. (Min: 8.5 mL or 6.5 mL).

Test is not performed at ARUP; separate specimens must be submitted when multiple tests are ordered.

Storage/Transport Temperature: **Critical Refrigerated**

Unacceptable Conditions: Hemolyzed specimens

Stability (collection to initiation of testing): Ambient: Unacceptable; Refrigerated: 3 weeks; Frozen: Unacceptable

[0091229](#)

Silver, Whole Blood

SILVER BLD

Performed: Varies

Reported: 8-11 days



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**The following will be discontinued from ARUP's test menu on October 5, 2020.
Replacement test options are supplied if applicable.**

Test Number	Test Name	Refer To Replacement
2010979	Cerdelga® (eliglustat) Panel, Peak Levels	