

## **Billing and Coding Guidelines**

### **Contractor Name**

Wisconsin Physicians Service (WPS)

### **Contractor Number**

00951, 00952, 00953, 00954  
05101, 05201, 05301, 05401  
05102, 05202, 05302, 05402  
52280

### **Contractor Type**

Carrier  
Fiscal Intermediary (FI)  
MAC A  
MAC B

### **Title**

Billing and Coding Guidelines for Heavy Metal Testing (PATH-028)

### **Document Effective Date**

12/16/2010

### **Revision Effective Date**

NA

### **Published Date**

11/01/2010

### **Text**

This document contains the coding guidelines for reporting heavy metal testing services and reasons for denial of these services. This document should be use in combination with the local coverage determination for Heavy Metal Testing (Path-028).

### **Notes:**

Title XVIII of the Social Security Act section 1862 (a)(1)(A). This section allows coverage and payment of those services that are considered to be medically reasonable and necessary.

Title XVIII of the Social Security Act section 1862 (a)(7). This section excludes routine physical examinations and services.

### **Coding Guidelines:**

1. The following tests do not have corresponding CPT/CMS codes. When submitted, use CPT code 84999 and place a description of the service in Item 19 of the CMS 1500 Claim Form: boron, cobalt, molybdenum, phosphorous (elemental), strontium, sulfur, thallium, tin, titanium, uranium, and vanadium.
2. Only blood tests performed on serum are payable, except for lead, arsenic, cadmium, mercury. These four are payable also on whole blood.

3. No urine testing on the following metals is payable: aluminum, chromium, cobalt, copper, iron, manganese, molybdenum, thallium, tin and titanium.
4. Claims must be submitted with a valid numeric ICD-9-CM code as primary diagnosis in field #1 and an E code in the secondary diagnosis field #2 of Item 21 of the 1500 form or the corresponding fields for electronic submission.
5. Medical records may be requested by Medicare for the claims and must contain documentation as set forth in the Section on Indications and Limitation. The responsibility for this documentation, as with any other Medicare claim, resides with the provider submitting the claim and must be provided upon request.

#### **Denial Summary**

1. No payment will be made for heavy metals testing done on whole blood, except for arsenic, cadmium, lead, lithium, and mercury
2. The following urine tests are non-payable:
  - a. Aluminum
  - b. Chromium
  - c. Cobalt
  - d. Copper
  - e. Manganese
  - f. Molybdenum
  - g. Tin
  - h. Titanium
5. The following serum and/or urine testing is non-payable:
  - a. Boron
  - b. Phosphorous (elemental)
  - c. Silica
  - d. Strontium
  - e. Sulfur
  - f. Uranium
  - g. Vanadium
6. Suspected mercury toxicity related to dental amalgams is not covered.
7. Hair analysis for any toxin is non-payable.
8. Stool testing for heavy metals and/or amino acids is not payable.

#### **Revision History Explanation/Number**