



If a conflict arises between a Clinical Payment and Coding Policy (“CPCP”) and any plan document under which a member is entitled to Covered Services, the plan document will govern. If a conflict arises between a CPCP and any provider contract pursuant to which a provider participates in and/or provides Covered Services to eligible member(s) and/or plans, the provider contract will govern. “Plan documents” include, but are not limited to, Certificates of Health Care Benefits, benefit booklets, Summary Plan Descriptions, and other coverage documents. BCBSNM may use reasonable discretion interpreting and applying this policy to services being delivered in a particular case. BCBSNM has full and final discretionary authority for their interpretation and application to the extent provided under any applicable plan documents.

Providers are responsible for submission of accurate documentation of services performed. Providers are expected to submit claims for services rendered using valid code combinations from Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (“HIPAA”) approved code sets. Claims should be coded appropriately according to industry standard coding guidelines including, but not limited to: Uniform Billing (“UB”) Editor, American Medical Association (“AMA”), Current Procedural Terminology (“CPT®”), CPT® Assistant, Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (“HCPCS”), ICD-10 CM and PCS, National Drug Codes (“NDC”), Diagnosis Related Group (“DRG”) guidelines, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (“CMS”) National Correct Coding Initiative (“NCCI”) Policy Manual, CCI table edits and other CMS guidelines.

Claims are subject to the code edit protocols for services/procedures billed. Claim submissions are subject to claim review including but not limited to, any terms of benefit coverage, provider contract language, medical policies, clinical payment and coding policies as well as coding software logic. Upon request, the provider is urged to submit any additional documentation.

Epithelial Cell Cytology in Breast Cancer Risk Assessment

Policy Number: CPCPLAB024

Version 1.0

Enterprise Medical Policy Committee Approval Date: 1/25/2022

Plan Effective Date: May 1, 2022

Description

BCBSNM has implemented certain lab management reimbursement criteria. Not all requirements apply to each product. Providers are urged to review Plan documents for eligible coverage for services rendered.

Reimbursement Information:

Cytologic analysis of epithelial cells from nipple aspirations as a technique to assess breast cancer risk and manage patients at high risk of breast cancer **is not reimbursable**. Techniques of collecting nipple aspiration fluid, include, but are not limited to, ductal lavage and suction.

Procedure Codes

Codes
88112, 88172, 88173

References:

- ASBS. (2016). Consensus Guideline on Concordance Assessment of Image-Guided Breast Biopsies and Management of Borderline or High-Risk Lesions. Retrieved from <https://www.breastsurgeons.org/docs/statements/Consensus-Guideline-on-Concordance-Assessment-of-Image-Guided-Breast-Biopsies.pdf>
- ASBS. (2019). Screening Mammography. Retrieved from <https://www.breastsurgeons.org/docs/statements/Position-Statement-on-Screening-Mammography.pdf>
- Chatterton, R. T., Heinz, R. E., Fought, A. J., Ivancic, D., Shappell, C., Allu, S., . . . Khan, S. A. (2016). Nipple Aspirate Fluid Hormone Concentrations and Breast Cancer Risk. *Horm Cancer*, 7(2), 127-136. doi:10.1007/s12672-016-0252-7
- FDA. (2017). Nipple Aspirate Test Is No Substitute for Mammogram. Retrieved from <https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/nipple-aspirate-test-no-substitute-mammogram>
- Golshan, M. (2018). Nipple discharge - UpToDate. In W. Chen (Ed.), *UpToDate*. Retrieved from https://www.uptodate.com/contents/nipple-discharge?source=search_result&search=nipple%20lavage&selectedTitle=1~150#H27
- Golshan, M. (2020). Nipple discharge - UpToDate. In W. Chen (Ed.), *UpToDate*. Retrieved from https://www.uptodate.com/contents/nipple-discharge?source=search_result&search=nipple%20lavage&selectedTitle=1~150#H27
- Hornberger, J., Chen, S. C., Li, Q., Kakad, P., & Quay, S. C. (2015). Proliferative epithelial disease identified in nipple aspirate fluid and risk of developing breast cancer: a systematic review. *Curr Med Res Opin*, 31(2), 253-262. doi:10.1185/03007995.2014.988209
- Kooistra, B. W., Wauters, C., van de Ven, S., & Strobbe, L. (2009). The diagnostic value of nipple discharge cytology in 618 consecutive patients. *Eur J Surg Oncol*, 35(6), 573-577. doi:10.1016/j.ejso.2008.09.009
- Lee, S. J., Trikha, S., Moy, L., Baron, P., diFlorio, R. M., Green, E. D., . . . Newell, M. S. (2017). ACR Appropriateness Criteria(®) Evaluation of Nipple Discharge. *J Am Coll Radiol*, 14(5s), S138-s153. doi:10.1016/j.jacr.2017.01.030
- Moelans, C. B., Patuleia, S. I. S., van Gils, C. H., van der Wall, E., & van Diest, P. J. (2019). Application of Nipple Aspirate Fluid miRNA Profiles for Early Breast Cancer Detection and Management. *Int J Mol Sci*, 20(22). doi:10.3390/ijms20225814
- NCCN. (2019). NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology; Breast Cancer Screening and Diagnosis v1.2019. Retrieved from https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/breast-screening.pdf. from National

Comprehensive Cancer Network https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/breast-screening.pdf

NCCN. (2021). NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology; Breast Cancer Screening and Diagnosis V1.2021. Retrieved from https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/breast-screening.pdf.

Shaheed, S. U., Tait, C., Kyriacou, K., Linforth, R., Salhab, M., & Sutton, C. (2018). Evaluation of nipple aspirate fluid as a diagnostic tool for early detection of breast cancer. *Clin Proteomics, 15*, 3. doi:10.1186/s12014-017-9179-4

Siegel, R. L., Miller, K. D., Fuchs, H. E., & Jemal, A. (2021). Cancer Statistics, 2021. *CA Cancer J Clin, 71*(1), 7-33. doi:10.3322/caac.21654

Siegel, R. L., Miller, K. D., & Jemal, A. (2019). Cancer statistics, 2019. *CA Cancer J Clin, 69*(1), 7-34. doi:10.3322/caac.21551

Policy Update History:

5/1/2022	New policy
----------	------------