

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.

Folate Testing

Policy Number: CPCPLAB048

Version 1.0

Plan CMO Approval Date: July 27, 2022

Plan Effective Date: January 1, 2023

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:

- 1. Measurement of serum folate concentration **may be reimbursable** for evaluation of patients when all of the following criteria are met:
 - a. patient has been diagnosed with megaloblastic or macrocytic anemia; AND
 - b. megaloblastic anemia and/or macrocytosis does not resolve after folic acid treatment

- 2. Measurement of serum folate concentration **is not reimbursable** for any other indications not described above
- 3. Measurement of RBC folate is not reimbursable for any indications

Procedure Codes

Codes	
82746, 82747	

References:

AAN. (2009). Management issues for women with epilepsy—focus on pregnancy Vitamin K, folic acid, blood levels, and breastfeeding. Retrieved from https://www.aan.com/Guidelines/home/GetGuidelineContent/345

ASCP. (2017, 10/19/2017). Do not order red blood cell folate levels at all. In adults, consider folate supplementation instead of serum folate testing in patients with macrocytic anemia. Twenty Things Physicians and Patients Should Question. Retrieved from http://www.choosingwisely.org/clinician-lists/ascp-do-not-order-red-blood-cell-folate-levels/

BCMA. (2012, 01/01/2012). Folate Deficiency - Investigation & Management. Retrieved from https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/bc-guidelines/folate-deficiency

Bibbins-Domingo, K., Grossman, D. C., Curry, S. J., Davidson, K. W., Epling, J. W., Jr., Garcia, F. A., . . . Tseng, C. W. (2017). Folic Acid Supplementation for the Prevention of Neural Tube Defects: US Preventive Services Task Force Recommendation Statement. JAMA, 317(2), 183-189. doi:10.1001/jama.2016.19438

CDC. (1991). Use of folic acid for prevention of spina bifida and other neural tube defects--1983-1991. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep, 40(30), 513-516.

CDC. (1992). Recommendations for the use of folic acid to reduce the number of cases of spina bifida and other neural tube defects. MMWR Recomm Rep, 41(Rr-14), 1-7.

CDC. (2018, April 11). Folic Acid. Retrieved from https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/folicacid/about.html

Choban, P., Dickerson, R., Malone, A., Worthington, P., & Compher, C. (2013). A.S.P.E.N. Clinical Guidelines: nutrition support of hospitalized adult patients with obesity. Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition, 37(6), 714-744. doi:10.1177/0148607113499374

Devalia, V., Hamilton, M. S., & Molloy, A. M. (2014). Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of cobalamin and folate disorders. Br J Haematol, 166(4), 496-513. doi:10.1111/bjh.12959

Dignass, A. U., Gasche, C., Bettenworth, D., Birgegard, G., Danese, S., Gisbert, J. P., . . . Vavricka, S. (2015). European consensus on the diagnosis and management of iron deficiency and anaemia in inflammatory bowel diseases. J Crohns Colitis, 9(3), 211-222. doi:10.1093/ecco-jcc/jju009

Epstein-Peterson, Z. D., Li, D. G., Lavery, J. A., Barrow, B., Chokshi, I., & Korenstein, D. (2020). Inpatient folate testing at an academic cancer center: single-year experience. Support Care Cancer. doi:10.1007/s00520-019-05267-1

FFI. (2018, March 2018). Global Progress of Industrially Milled Cereal Grains. Retrieved from http://www.ffinetwork.org/global_progress/

Finer, S., Saravanan, P., Hitman, G., & Yajnik, C. (2013). The role of the one-carbon cycle in the developmental origins of Type 2 diabetes and obesity. Diabetic Medicine, 31(3), 263-272. doi:10.1111/dme.12390

Galloway, M., & Rushworth, L. (2003). Red cell or serum folate? Results from the National Pathology Alliance benchmarking review. J Clin Pathol, 56(12), 924-926.

Gonzalez-Campoy, J. M., St Jeor, S. T., Castorino, K., Ebrahim, A., Hurley, D., Jovanovic, L., . . . Thomas, K. T. (2013). Clinical practice guidelines for healthy eating for the prevention and treatment of metabolic and endocrine diseases in adults: cosponsored by the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists/the American College of Endocrinology and the Obesity Society. Endocr Pract, 19 Suppl 3, 1-82. doi:10.4158/ep13155.gl

Gregory, I. I. I. J. F., Swendseid, M. E., & Jacob, R. A. (2000). Urinary Excretion of Folate Catabolites Responds to Changes in Folate Intake More Slowly than Plasma Folate and Homocysteine Concentrations and Lymphocyte DNA Methylation in Postmenopausal Women. The Journal of Nutrition, 130(12), 2949-2952. doi:10.1093/jn/130.12.2949

Handelsman, Y., Bloomgarden, Z. T., Grunberger, G., Umpierrez, G., Zimmerman, R. S., Bailey, T. S., . . . Zangeneh, F. (2015). American association of clinical endocrinologists and American college of endocrinology - clinical practice guidelines for developing a diabetes mellitus comprehensive care plan - 2015. Endocr Pract, 21 Suppl 1, 1-87. doi:10.4158/ep15672.Gl

Imbard, A., Benoist, J.-F., & Blom, H. J. (2013). Neural Tube Defects, Folic Acid and Methylation. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 10(9), 4352-4389. doi:10.3390/ijerph10094352

IOM. (1998). The National Academies Collection: Reports funded by National Institutes of Health. In Dietary Reference Intakes for Thiamin, Riboflavin, Niacin, Vitamin B6, Folate, Vitamin B12, Pantothenic Acid, Biotin, and Choline. Washington (DC): National Academies Press (US) National Academy of Sciences.

Jellinger, P. S., Handelsman, Y., Rosenblit, P. D., Bloomgarden, Z. T., Fonseca, V. A., Garber, A. J., ... Davidson, M. (2017). American Association Of Clinical Endocrinologists And American College Of Endocrinology Guidelines For Management Of Dyslipidemia And Prevention Of Cardiovascular Disease. Endocr Pract, 23(Suppl 2), 1-87. doi:10.4158/ep171764.appgl

Joelson, D. W., Fiebig, E. W., & Wu, A. H. (2007). Diminished need for folate measurements among indigent populations in the post folic acid supplementation era. Arch Pathol Lab Med, 131(3), 477-480. doi:10.1043/1543-2165(2007)131[477:Dnffma]2.0.Co;2

Kaferle, J., & Strzoda, C. E. (2009). Evaluation of macrocytosis. Am Fam Physician, 79(3), 203-208.

Killick, S. B., Bown, N., Cavenagh, J., Dokal, I., Foukaneli, T., Hill, A., . . . Marsh, J. C. (2016). Guidelines for the diagnosis and management of adult aplastic anaemia. Br J Haematol, 172(2),

187-207. doi:10.1111/bjh.13853

Knopman, D. S., DeKosky, S. T., Cummings, J. L., Chui, H., Corey-Bloom, J., Relkin, N., . . . Stevens, J. C. (2001). Practice parameter: diagnosis of dementia (an evidence-based review). Report of the Quality Standards Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. Neurology, 56(9), 1143-1153.

McMurray, J., Parfrey, P., Adamson, J. W., Aljama, P., Berns, J. S., Bohlius, J., . . . Ganz, T. (2012). Kidney disease: Improving global outcomes (KDIGO) anemia work group. KDIGO clinical practice guideline for anemia in chronic kidney disease. Kidney International Supplements, 2(4), 279.

Means Jr, R. T., & Fairfield, K. M. (2020, December 10). Causes and pathophysiology of vitamin B12 and folate deficiencies. Retrieved from https://www.uptodate.com/contents/causes-and-pathophysiology-of-vitamin-b12-and-folate-deficiencies

Means Jr, R. T., & Fairfield, K. M. (2021, March 26). Clinical manifestations and diagnosis of vitamin B12 and folate deficiency. Retrieved from https://www.uptodate.com/contents/clinical-manifestations-and-diagnosis-of-vitamin-b12-and-folate-deficiency

Mechanick, J. I., Apovian, C., Brethauer, S., Garvey, W. T., Joffe, A. M., Kim, J., ... Still, C. D. (2019). Clinical Practice Guidelines For The Perioperative Nutrition, Metabolic, And Nonsurgical Support Of Patients Undergoing Bariatric Procedures - 2019 Update: Cosponsored By American Association Of Clinical Endocrinologists/American College Of Endocrinology, The Obesity Society, American Society For Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery, Obesity Medicine Association, And American Society Of Anesthesiologists - Executive Summary. Endocr Pract, 25(12), 1346-1359. doi:10.4158/gl-2019-0406

Mehta, N. M., Skillman, H. E., Irving, S. Y., Coss-Bu, J. A., Vermilyea, S., Farrington, E. A., ... Braunschweig, C. (2017). Guidelines for the Provision and Assessment of Nutrition Support Therapy in the Pediatric Critically III Patient: Society of Critical Care Medicine and American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition. Pediatr Crit Care Med, 18(7), 675-715. doi:10.1097/pcc.00000000001134

Mikhail, A., Brown, C., Williams, J. A., Mathrani, V., Shrivastava, R., Evans, J., . . . Bhandari, S. (2017). Renal association clinical practice guideline on Anaemia of Chronic Kidney Disease. BMC Nephrol, 18(1), 345. doi:10.1186/s12882-017-0688-1

NBA. (2012). Patient blood management guidelines: module 2 perioperative. Canberra, Australia: National Blood Authority Retrieved from https://www.blood.gov.au/system/files/documents/pbm-module-2.pdf

NCCN. (2021, January 15). Myelodysplastic Syndromes Version 3.2021. Retrieved from https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/mds.pdf

NGC. (2013). A.S.P.E.N. clinical guidelines: nutrition support of hospitalized adult patients with obesity. Retrieved from https://www.guideline.gov/summaries/summary/47538/aspen-clinical-guidelines-nutrition-support-of-hospitalized-adult-patients-with-obesity?q=folate

NGC. (2016). Guidelines for the provision and assessment of nutrition support therapy in the adult critically ill patient: Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) and American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (A.S.P.E.N.). Retrieved from https://www.guideline.gov/summaries/summary/50143/guidelines-for-the-provision-and-assessment-of-nutrition-support-therapy-in-the-adult-critically-ill-patient-society-of-critical-

care-medicine-sccm-and-american-society-for-parenteral-and-enteral-nutrition-aspen?q=folate

NICE. (2015). Bladder cancer: diagnosis and management. (NG2). United Kingdom: National Institute for Health and Care Excellence Retrieved from https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng2

NIH. (2018, 10/04/2018). Folate Dietary Supplement Fact Sheet. Retrieved from https://ods.od.nih.gov/factsheets/Folate-HealthProfessional/

Rothenberg, S. P., da Costa, M. P., Sequeira, J. M., Cracco, J., Roberts, J. L., Weedon, J., & Quadros, E. V. (2004). Autoantibodies against Folate Receptors in Women with a Pregnancy Complicated by a Neural-Tube Defect. New England Journal of Medicine, 350(2), 134-142. doi:10.1056/NEJMoa031145

Rubio-Tapia, A., Hill, I. D., Kelly, C. P., Calderwood, A. H., & Murray, J. A. (2013). ACG clinical guidelines: diagnosis and management of celiac disease. Am J Gastroenterol, 108(5), 656-676; quiz 677. doi:10.1038/ajg.2013.79

Shojania, A. M., & von Kuster, K. (2010). Ordering folate assays is no longer justified for investigation of anemias, in folic acid fortified countries. BMC Research Notes, 3, 22-22. doi:10.1186/1756-0500-3-22

Thompson, K. L., Elliott, L., Fuchs-Tarlovsky, V., Levin, R. M., Voss, A. C., & Piemonte, T. (2017). Oncology Evidence-Based Nutrition Practice Guideline for Adults. J Acad Nutr Diet, 117(2), 297-310.e247. doi:10.1016/j.jand.2016.05.010

Wu, A., Chanarin, I., Slavin, G., & Levi, A. J. (1975). Folate Deficiency in the Alcoholic—its Relationship to Clinical and Haematological Abnormalities, Liver Disease and Folate Stores. British Journal of Haematology, 29(3), 469-478. doi:10.1111/j.1365-2141.1975.tb01844.x

Policy Update History:

1/1/2023	New policy