

Reimbursement Policy

Policy Number: RPLAB045

Policy Title: Pathogen Panel Testing

Approval Date: Aug. 6, 2026

Effective Date: Dec. 4, 2026

Policy Disclaimer

If a conflict arises between a Reimbursement Policy and any Plan document under which a member is entitled to covered services, the Plan document will govern. If a conflict arises between a reimbursement policy 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's 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. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico 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 submitting 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 approved code sets. Claims should be coded appropriately according to industry standard coding guidelines including, but not limited to: Uniform Billing Editor, American Medical Association, Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) Assistant, Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System, ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS, National Drug Codes, Diagnosis Related Group guidelines, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services National Correct Coding Initiative Policy Manual, CCI table edits and other CMS guidelines.

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

Description

The plan 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

NOTE: This policy is specific to testing in the outpatient setting. The criteria below do not apply to testing in other than the outpatient setting.

1. For individuals who are displaying signs and symptoms of a respiratory tract infection (see **Note 1**), panel testing of up to **5** respiratory pathogens (antigen panel testing or multiplex PCR-based panel testing) **may be reimbursable**.
2. For individuals who are immunocompromised **and** who are displaying signs and symptoms of a respiratory tract infection (see **Note 1**), multiplex PCR-based panel testing of up to 25 respiratory pathogens **may be reimbursable**.
3. For all situations not described above, antigen panel testing or multiplex PCR-based panel testing of **6** or more respiratory pathogens **is not reimbursable**.
4. Multiplex PCR-based panel testing of pathogens in cerebral spinal fluid (CSF) **is not reimbursable**.
5. Molecular detection-based panel testing of pathogens in the blood **is not reimbursable**.
6. Molecular detection-based panel testing of urine pathogens for the diagnosis of urinary tract infections (e.g., GENETWORx Molecular PCR UTI Test) **is not reimbursable**.
7. Molecular-based panel testing to screen for or diagnose wound infections (e.g., GENETWORx PCR Wound Testing) **is not reimbursable**.
8. Molecular-based panel testing to screen for or diagnose joint infections (e.g., BIOFIRE® Joint Infection (JI) Panel, Synovasure® Comprehensive PJI Test Panel with SynTuition™) **is not reimbursable**.
9. Molecular-based panel testing for general screening of microorganisms (e.g., MicroGenDX qPCR+NGS) **is not reimbursable**.

NOTE 1: Signs and symptoms of a respiratory tract infection include fever, chills, fatigue, cough, rhinorrhea, anorexia, pharyngitis, vomiting, new ageusia or anosmia, headaches,

myalgia, diarrhea, and weakness. (2) Additional signs and symptoms of a respiratory tract infection may be seen in individuals who are less than 18 years of age. These include irritability, decreased activity, nausea, rash, stomach pain, ear tugging/otalgia, vomiting after coughing, tachypnea, chest retractions/nasal flaring, grunting, wheezing, crackles, dehydration, cyanosis, apnea episodes, drooling, or refusal to eat. For infants, non-specific signs such as poor feeding, lethargy, and fussiness may present over clear localizing symptoms. (3-7)

Procedure Codes

The following is not an all-encompassing code list. The inclusion of a code does not guarantee it is a covered service or eligible for reimbursement.

Code	Description
87154	CUL TYP ID BLD PTHGN 6+ TRGT
87428	SARSCOV & INF VIR A&B AG IA
87483	CNS DNA AMP PROBE TYPE 12-25
87627	JT SPC PTHGN&RX RSIST GEN26+
87631	RESP VIRUS 3-5 TARGETS
87632	RESP VIRUS 6-11 TARGETS
87633	RESP VIRUS 12-25 TARGETS
87636	SARSCOV2 & INF A&B AMP PRB
87637	SARSCOV2&INF A&B&RSV AMP PRB
87812	SARSCOV2&INF TYP A&B W/OPTIC
0068U	CANDIDA SPECIES PNL AMP PRB
0086U	NFCT DS BACT&FNG ORG ID 6+
0109U	ID ASPERGILLUS DNA 4 SPECIES
0112U	IADI 16S&18S RRNA GENES
0115U	RESPIR IADNA 18 VIRAL&2 BACT
0140U	NFCT DS FUNGI DNA 15 TRGT
0141U	NFCT DS BACT&FNG GRAM POS
0142U	NFCT DS BACT&FNG GRAM NEG
0152U	NFCT DS DNA UNTRGT NGNRJ SEQ
0202U	NFCT DS 22 TRGT SARS-COV-2
0223U	NFCT DS 22 TRGT SARS-COV-2
0225U	NFCT DS DNA&RNA 21 SARSCOV2
0321U	IADNA GU PTHGN 20BCTandFNG ORG
0323U	IADNA CNS PTHGN NEXT GEN SEQ
0371U	IADNA GU PTHGN SEMIQ DNA16&1

0480U	NFCT DS CSF METAG NGS ALYS
0504U	NFCT DS UTI ID 17 PATH ORGS
0528U	LRT IAD 18BCT/8VIR&7ARG RNA
0531U	NFCT DS AFB&INV FNG 673ORGS
0556U	NFCT DS P-S DNA&RNA 12 TRGTS
0563U	NFCT DS PTHGN-SNA 11VIR&4BCT
0564U	NFCT DS PTHGN-SNA 10VIR&4BCT
0590U	NFCT DS BCT&FNGL DNA 44 ORGS
0593U	NFCT DS GU PTHGN DNA 46TRGT
0600U	NFCT DS WND INFCTJ 65ORGS&30
0601U	NFCT DS PJI ALYS 11 BMRKS IA
0610U	NFCT DS ANTMCR SC PHENOTYPIC
0666U	NFCT DS WND DNA MULT RTPCR

CPT copyright 2025 American Medical Association (AMA). All rights reserved. CPT is a registered trademark of the AMA.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. (2026). Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Level II.

References

1. Palavecino E. One Sample, Multiple Results The Use of Multiplex PCR for Diagnosis of Infectious Syndromes. Webpage. *Clinical Laboratory News*. 2019;2018(11/1)doi:10.1016/j.idc.2019.10.006
2. CDC. About Respiratory Illnesses. Updated August 18, 2025. <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/about/index.html>
3. AAP. Respiratory Syncytial Virus. *Red Book: 2021–2024 Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases*. 2021:0. doi:10.1542/9781610025782-S3_114
4. CDC. About Rhinoviruses. Updated February 19, 2026. <https://www.cdc.gov/rhinoviruses/about/index.html>
5. CDC. About Strep Throat. Updated January 15, 2026. <https://www.cdc.gov/group-a-strep/about/strep-throat.html>
6. CDC. RSV in Infants and Young Children. Updated February 20, 2026. <https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/infants-young-children/index.html>
7. CDC. Respiratory Viruses and Young Children. Updated August 18, 2025. <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/risk-factors/young-children.html>
8. CMS. Local Coverage Determination (LCD): Foodborne Gastrointestinal Panels Identified by Multiplex Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests (NAATs) (L37766). <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/lcd-details.aspx?LCDId=37766>
9. Leber W, Lammel O, Siebenhofer A, Redlberger-Fritz M, Panovska-Griffiths J, Czypionka T. Comparing the diagnostic accuracy of point-of-care lateral flow antigen testing for SARS-CoV-2 with RT-PCR in primary care (REAP-2). *eClinicalMedicine*. 2021;38doi:10.1016/j.eclinm.2021.101011

-
10. WHO. Diarrhoeal disease. Updated March 7, 2024. <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/diarrhoeal-disease>
 11. Scallan E, Griffin PM, Angulo FJ, Tauxe RV, Hoekstra RM. Foodborne illness acquired in the United States--unspecified agents. *Emerging infectious diseases*. Jan 2011;17(1):16-22. doi:10.3201/eid1701.091101p2
 12. Riddle MS, DuPont HL, Connor BA. ACG Clinical Guideline: Diagnosis, Treatment, and Prevention of Acute Diarrheal Infections in Adults. *The American journal of gastroenterology*. May 2016;111(5):602-22. doi:10.1038/ajg.2016.126
 13. Scallan Walter EJ CZ, Tierney R, Griffin PM, Hoekstra RM, Payne DC, et al. Foodborne Illness Acquired in the United States—Major Pathogens, 2019. *Emerging Infectious Diseases*. 2025;31(4):669-677doi:10.3201/eid3104.240913
 14. Miller JM, Binnicker MJ, Campbell S, et al. Guide to Utilization of the Microbiology Laboratory for Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases: 2024 Update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) and the American Society for Microbiology (ASM). *Clin Infect Dis*. Mar 5 2024;doi:10.1093/cid/ciae104
 15. Humphries RM, Linscott AJ. Laboratory diagnosis of bacterial gastroenteritis. *Clin Microbiol Rev*. Jan 2015;28(1):3-31. doi:10.1128/cmr.00073-14
 16. Zhang H, Morrison S, Tang YW. Multiplex polymerase chain reaction tests for detection of pathogens associated with gastroenteritis. *Clinics in laboratory medicine*. Jun 2015;35(2):461-86. doi:10.1016/j.cll.2015.02.006
 17. Fernandez-Soto P, Sanchez-Hernandez A, Gandasegui J, et al. Strong-LAMP: A LAMP Assay for Strongyloides spp. Detection in Stool and Urine Samples. Towards the Diagnosis of Human Strongyloidiasis Starting from a Rodent Model. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis*. Jul 2016;10(7):e0004836. doi:10.1371/journal.pntd.0004836
 18. La Hoz RM, Morris MI. Intestinal parasites including Cryptosporidium, Cyclospora, Giardia, and Microsporidia, Entamoeba histolytica, Strongyloides, Schistosomiasis, and Echinococcus: Guidelines from the American Society of Transplantation Infectious Diseases Community of Practice. *Clin Transplant*. Sep 2019;33(9):e13618. doi:10.1111/ctr.13618
 19. BioFire. The BioFire® FilmArray® Gastrointestinal (GI) Panel. Updated 2026. <https://www.biofire.com/products/the-filmarray-panels/filmarraygi/>
 20. Luminex. xTAG® Gastrointestinal Pathogen Panel (GPP). Updated 2026. <https://www.luminexcorp.com/gastrointestinal-pathogen-panel/>
 21. BioCode. FDA-Cleared Gastrointestinal Pathogen Panel (GPP). Updated 2026. https://www.apbiocode.com/gi_panel.htm
 22. Thomas M, Bomar PA. Upper Respiratory Tract Infection. *StatPearls*. StatPearls Publishing LLC.; 2026. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30422556/>
 23. Hansen LS, Lykkegaard J, Thomsen JL, Hansen MP. Acute lower respiratory tract infections: Symptoms, findings and management in Danish general practice. *Eur J Gen Pract*. Dec 2020;26(1):14-20. doi:10.1080/13814788.2019.1674279
 24. Ginocchio CC. Detection of respiratory viruses using non-molecular based methods. *Journal of clinical virology : the official publication of the Pan American Society for Clinical Virology*. Nov 2007;40 Suppl 1:S11-4. doi:10.1016/s1386-6532(07)70004-5

-
25. Bonnin P, Mischczak F, Kin N, et al. Study and interest of cellular load in respiratory samples for the optimization of molecular virological diagnosis in clinical practice. journal article. August 09 2016;16(1):384. doi:10.1186/s12879-016-1730-9
 26. Pammi M. Neonatal bacterial sepsis: Clinical features and diagnosis in neonates born at less than 35 weeks gestation. Updated March 2, 2026. <https://www.uptodate.com/contents/neonatal-bacterial-sepsis-clinical-features-and-diagnosis-in-neonates-born-at-less-than-35-weeks-gestation>
 27. Caliendo AM. Multiplex PCR and Emerging Technologies for the Detection of Respiratory Pathogens. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. 2011;52(suppl_4):S326-S330. doi:10.1093/cid/cir047
 28. Yan Y, Zhang S, Tang YW. Molecular assays for the detection and characterization of respiratory viruses. *Seminars in respiratory and critical care medicine*. Aug 2011;32(4):512-26. doi:10.1055/s-0031-1283288
 29. Lewinski MA, Alby K, Babady NE, et al. Exploring the Utility of Multiplex Infectious Disease Panel Testing for Diagnosis of Infection in Different Body Sites: A Joint Report of the Association for Molecular Pathology, American Society for Microbiology, Infectious Diseases Society of America, and Pan American Society for Clinical Virology. *The Journal of Molecular Diagnostics*. 2023;25(12):857-875. doi:10.1016/j.jmoldx.2023.08.005
 30. Baghdadi JD, Tung CC, Johnson JK, Morgan DJ, Harris AD. Changes in use of multiplex respiratory panel testing during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol*. Oct 10 2024:1-6. doi:10.1017/ice.2024.163
 31. Brendish NJ, Poole S, Naidu VV, et al. Clinical impact of molecular point-of-care testing for suspected COVID-19 in hospital (COV-19POC): a prospective, interventional, non-randomised, controlled study. *The Lancet Respiratory Medicine*. 2020;8(12):1192-1200. doi:10.1016/S2213-2600(20)30454-9
 32. ASM. Making Sense of Respiratory Viral Panel Results. Updated March 2, 2020. <https://asm.org/articles/2020/march/making-sense-of-respiratory-viral-panel-results>
 33. BioFire. The BioFire® FilmArray® Respiratory 2.1 (RP2.1) Panel. Updated 2026. <https://www.biofiredx.com/products/the-filmarray-panels/filmarrayrp/>
 34. GenMark. Respiratory Pathogen (RP) Panel and NEW Respiratory Pathogen Panel 2 (RP2). Updated 2026. <https://www.medical-xprt.com/products/genmark-respiratory-pathogen-panels-750159>
 35. BioCode. FDA-Cleared Respiratory Pathogen Panel (RPP). Updated 2026. https://apbiocode.com/rpp_panel.htm
 36. Diasorin. NxTAG® Respiratory Pathogen Panel v2. Updated 2026. <https://us.diasorin.com/en/molecular-diagnostics/kits-reagents/nxtag-respiratory-pathogen-panel-V2>
 37. QIAGEN. QIAstat-Dx Respiratory SARS-CoV-2 Panel. Updated 2026. <https://www.qiagen.com/us/products/diagnostics-and-clinical-research/infectious-disease/qiastat-dx-syndromic-testing/qiastat-dx-eua-us/>
 38. Visseaux B, Le Hingrat Q, Collin G, et al. Evaluation of the QIAstat-Dx Respiratory SARS-CoV-2 Panel, the First Rapid Multiplex PCR Commercial Assay for SARS-CoV-2 Detection. *Journal of Clinical Microbiology*. 2020;58(8):e00630-20. doi:10.1128/JCM.00630-20
 39. Veritor B. BD Veritor™ Plus System for Rapid Detection of SARS-CoV-2 & Flu A+B. Updated 2026. <https://bdveritor.bd.com/en-us/products/cov2-flu-a-b>

-
40. Healthcare O. QuickFinder™ COVID-19 / Flu Antigen Self Test. Updated 2026.
<https://www.osanghc.com/en/product/detail?idx=116>
 41. QuidelOrtho. QuickVue® COVID-19 Test. Updated 2026.
<https://www.quidelortho.com/global/en/consumers/quickvue-otc>
 42. Dando SJ, Mackay-Sim A, Norton R, et al. Pathogens penetrating the central nervous system: infection pathways and the cellular and molecular mechanisms of invasion. *Clin Microbiol Rev.* Oct 2014;27(4):691-726. doi:10.1128/cmr.00118-13
 43. CDC. About Bacterial Meningitis. Updated September 9, 2025.
<https://www.cdc.gov/meningitis/about/bacterial-meningitis.html>
 44. CDC. About Fungal Meningitis. Updated September 9, 2025.
<https://www.cdc.gov/meningitis/about/fungal-meningitis.html>
 45. CDC. About Meningococcal Disease. Updated February 1, 2024.
<https://www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/about/index.html>
 46. Petti CA, Polage CR. Molecular diagnosis of central nervous system infections. Updated July 30, 2025. <https://www.uptodate.com/contents/molecular-diagnosis-of-central-nervous-system-infections>
 47. BioFire. The BioFire® FilmArray® Meningitis/Encephalitis (ME) Panel. Updated 2026.
<https://www.biofiredx.com/products/the-filmarray-panels/filmarrayme/>
 48. CDC. About Sepsis. Updated August 19, 2025. <https://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/about/>
 49. Gyawali B, Ramakrishna K, Dhamoon AS. Sepsis: The evolution in definition, pathophysiology, and management. *SAGE Open Med.* 2019;7:2050312119835043. doi:10.1177/2050312119835043
 50. Liesenfeld O, Lehman L, Hunfeld KP, Kost G. Molecular diagnosis of sepsis: New aspects and recent developments. *European journal of microbiology & immunology.* 2014;4(1):1-25. doi:10.1556/EuJMI.4.2014.1.1
 51. Lamy B, Sundqvist M, Idelevich EA. Bloodstream infections - Standard and progress in pathogen diagnostics. *Clin Microbiol Infect.* Feb 2020;26(2):142-150. doi:10.1016/j.cmi.2019.11.017
 52. Banerjee R, Teng CB, Cunningham SA, et al. Randomized Trial of Rapid Multiplex Polymerase Chain Reaction-Based Blood Culture Identification and Susceptibility Testing. *Clin Infect Dis.* Oct 1 2015;61(7):1071-80. doi:10.1093/cid/civ447
 53. Diagnostics R. cobas® eplex Blood Culture Identification Panels. Updated 2026.
<https://diagnostics.roche.com/us/en/products/params/eplex-bcid-panels.html>
 54. BioFire. The BioFire® FilmArray® Blood Culture Identification (BCID) Panel. Updated 2026. <https://www.biofiredx.com/products/the-filmarray-panels/filmarraybcid/>
 55. Bonkat G, Bartoletti R, Bruyere F, et al. European Association of Urology (EAU) Guidelines on Urological Infections. Updated March 2026.
<http://uroweb.org/guideline/urological-infections/#3>
 56. Gupta K. Acute complicated urinary tract infection (including pyelonephritis) in adults. Updated November 25, 2025. <https://www.uptodate.com/contents/acute-complicated-urinary-tract-infection-including-pyelonephritis-in-adults>
 57. Meyrier A. Sampling and evaluation of voided urine in the diagnosis of urinary tract infection in adults. Updated February 28, 2025.
<https://www.uptodate.com/contents/sampling-and-evaluation-of-voided-urine-in-the-diagnosis-of-urinary-tract-infection-in-adults>

-
58. MircoGenDX. UroKEY. Updated 2026. <https://patients.microgendx.com/products/urokey>
 59. Pathnostics. Guidance UTI. Updated 2026. <https://pathnostics.com/tests/guidance-uti/#1647110828433-7f31d2bd-54d7>
 60. Armstrong D, Meyr A. Principles of acute wound management. Updated May 29, 2025. <https://www.uptodate.com/contents/principles-of-acute-wound-management>
 61. GenetWorx. Wounds Pathogen Panel. Updated 2026. <https://www.genetworx.com/services/wound-pathogen-panel>
 62. MicroGenDX. Wound Care Updated March 2, 2026. <https://microgendx.com/wound-care/>
 63. Goldenberg DL, Sexton DJ. Septic arthritis of native joints in adults. Updated August 1, 2025. <https://www.uptodate.com/contents/septic-arthritis-of-native-joints-in-adults>
 64. Baddour LM, Chen AF. Periprosthetic joint infection: Epidemiology, microbiology, clinical manifestations, and diagnosis. Updated March 23, 2026. <https://www.uptodate.com/contents/periprosthetic-joint-infection-epidemiology-microbiology-clinical-manifestations-and-diagnosis>
 65. Wu KAK, D.N.; Seidelman, J.L.; Seyler, T.M. Native Joint Septic Arthritis. *Antibiotics* 2024;13, 596.
 66. bioMérieux. The BioFire® Joint Infection (JI) Panel. Updated 2026. <https://www.biomerieux.com/us/en/our-offer/clinical-products/biofire-joint-infection-panel.html>
 67. Buss SN, Leber A, Chapin K, et al. Multicenter evaluation of the BioFire FilmArray gastrointestinal panel for etiologic diagnosis of infectious gastroenteritis. *J Clin Microbiol.* Mar 2015;53(3):915-25. doi:10.1128/jcm.02674-14
 68. Claas EC, Burnham CA, Mazzulli T, Templeton K, Topin F. Performance of the xTAG(R) gastrointestinal pathogen panel, a multiplex molecular assay for simultaneous detection of bacterial, viral, and parasitic causes of infectious gastroenteritis. *Journal of microbiology and biotechnology.* 2013;23(7):1041-5.
 69. Onori M, Coltella L, Mancinelli L, et al. Evaluation of a multiplex PCR assay for simultaneous detection of bacterial and viral enteropathogens in stool samples of paediatric patients. *Diagnostic microbiology and infectious disease.* Jun 2014;79(2):149-54. doi:10.1016/j.diagmicrobio.2014.02.004
 70. Humphrey JM, Ranbhise S, Ibrahim E, et al. Multiplex Polymerase Chain Reaction for Detection of Gastrointestinal Pathogens in Migrant Workers in Qatar. 2016;95(6):1330-1337. doi:10.4269/ajtmh.16-0464
 71. Liu J, Kabir F, Manneh J, et al. Development and assessment of molecular diagnostic tests for 15 enteropathogens causing childhood diarrhoea: a multicentre study. *The Lancet Infectious diseases.* Aug 2014;14(8):716-724. doi:10.1016/s1473-3099(14)70808-4
 72. Operario DJ, Houpt E. Defining the causes of diarrhea: novel approaches. *Current opinion in infectious diseases.* Oct 2011;24(5):464-71. doi:10.1097/QCO.0b013e32834aa13a
 73. Couturier MR, Lee B, Zelyas N, Chui L. Shiga-toxigenic Escherichia coli detection in stool samples screened for viral gastroenteritis in Alberta, Canada. *J Clin Microbiol.* Feb 2011;49(2):574-8. doi:10.1128/jcm.01693-10
 74. Xie J, Kim K, Berenger BM, et al. Comparison of a Rapid Multiplex Gastrointestinal Panel with Standard Laboratory Testing in the Management of Children with Hematochezia in

-
- a Pediatric Emergency Department: Randomized Controlled Trial. *Microbiol Spectr.* Jun 15 2023;11(3):e0026823. doi:10.1128/spectrum.00268-23
75. Cybulski RJ, Jr., Bateman AC, Bourassa L, et al. Clinical Impact of a Multiplex Gastrointestinal Polymerase Chain Reaction Panel in Patients With Acute Gastroenteritis. *Clin Infect Dis.* Nov 13 2018;67(11):1688-1696. doi:10.1093/cid/ciy357
76. Beal SG, Tremblay EE, Toffel S, Velez L, Rand KH. A Gastrointestinal PCR Panel Improves Clinical Management and Lowers Health Care Costs. *J Clin Microbiol.* Jan 2018;56(1)doi:10.1128/jcm.01457-17
77. Zhan Z, Guo J, Xiao Y, et al. Comparison of BioFire FilmArray gastrointestinal panel versus Luminex xTAG Gastrointestinal Pathogen Panel (xTAG GPP) for diarrheal pathogen detection in China. *Int J Infect Dis.* Oct 2020;99:414-420. doi:10.1016/j.ijid.2020.08.020
78. van Asten SAV, Boers SA, de Groot JDF, Schuurman R, Claas ECJ. Evaluation of the Genmark ePlex® and QIAstat-Dx® respiratory pathogen panels in detecting bacterial targets in lower respiratory tract specimens. *BMC Microbiol.* Aug 26 2021;21(1):236. doi:10.1186/s12866-021-02289-w
79. Uyeki TM, Bernstein HH, Bradley JS, et al. Clinical Practice Guidelines by the Infectious Diseases Society of America: 2018 Update on Diagnosis, Treatment, Chemoprophylaxis, and Institutional Outbreak Management of Seasonal Influenza. *Clin Infect Dis.* 2018;doi:10.1093/cid/ciy866
80. Mormeneo Bayo S, López González E, Bellés Bellés A, et al. Detection and pathological role of intestinal protozoa in children. *Parasitol Int.* Jun 2022;88:102558. doi:10.1016/j.parint.2022.102558
81. Ward C, Stocker K, Begum J, Wade P, Ebrahimsa U, Goldenberg SD. Performance evaluation of the Verigene(R) (Nanosphere) and FilmArray(R) (BioFire(R)) molecular assays for identification of causative organisms in bacterial bloodstream infections. *European journal of clinical microbiology & infectious diseases : official publication of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology.* Mar 2015;34(3):487-96. doi:10.1007/s10096-014-2252-2
82. Chang S-S, Hsieh W-H, Liu T-S, et al. Multiplex PCR System for Rapid Detection of Pathogens in Patients with Presumed Sepsis – A Systemic Review and Meta-Analysis. *PLOS ONE.* 2013;8(5):e62323. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0062323
83. Almonacid DE, Kraal L, Ossandon FJ, et al. 16S rRNA gene sequencing and healthy reference ranges for 28 clinically relevant microbial taxa from the human gut microbiome. *PLOS ONE.* 2017;12(5):e0176555. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0176555
84. Watts GS, Youens-Clark K, Slepian MJ, et al. 16S rRNA gene sequencing on a benchtop sequencer: accuracy for identification of clinically important bacteria. *Journal of applied microbiology.* 2017;123(6):1584-1596. doi:10.1111/jam.13590
85. V. Wintzingerode F, Göbel UB, Stackebrandt E. Determination of microbial diversity in environmental samples: pitfalls of PCR-based rRNA analysis. 1997;21(3):213-229. doi:doi:10.1111/j.1574-6976.1997.tb00351.x
86. Medical Diagnostics. One Vial, Multiple Pathogens. Updated 2026. <https://www.mdlab.com/>

-
87. McCarty TP, Cumagun P, Meeder J, et al. Test Performance and Potential Clinical Utility of the GenMark Dx ePlex Blood Culture Identification Gram-Negative Panel. *Microbiol Spectr*. Feb 14 2023;11(1):e0409222. doi:10.1128/spectrum.04092-22
 88. Esteban J, Salar-Vidal L, Schmitt BH, et al. Multicenter evaluation of the BIOFIRE Joint Infection Panel for the detection of bacteria, yeast, and AMR genes in synovial fluid samples. *J Clin Microbiol*. Nov 21 2023;61(11):e0035723. doi:10.1128/jcm.00357-23
 89. Surawicz CM, Brandt LJ, Binion DG, et al. Guidelines for diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of *Clostridium difficile* infections. *The American journal of gastroenterology*. Apr 2013;108(4):478-98; quiz 499. doi:10.1038/ajg.2013.4
 90. ACG. ACG updates clinical guidelines on prevention, diagnosis, treatment of *C. difficile* infection. ACP Gastroenterology Monthly Newsletter: American College of Gastroenterology; 2021.
 91. Kelly CR, Fischer M, Allegretti JR, et al. ACG Clinical Guidelines: Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment of *Clostridioides difficile* Infections. *Official journal of the American College of Gastroenterology | ACG*. 2021;116(6):1124-1147. doi:10.14309/ajg.0000000000001278
 92. Rubin DT, Ananthakrishnan AN, Siegel CA, Barnes EL, Long MD. ACG Clinical Guideline Update: Ulcerative Colitis in Adults. *The American journal of gastroenterology*. Jun 3 2025;120(6):1187-1224. doi:10.14309/ajg.00000000000003463
 93. Shane AL, Mody RK, Crump JA, et al. 2017 Infectious Diseases Society of America Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Infectious Diarrhea. *Clin Infect Dis*. Nov 29 2017;65(12):1963-1973. doi:10.1093/cid/cix959
 94. McDonald LC, Gerding DN, Johnson S, et al. Clinical Practice Guidelines for *Clostridium difficile* Infection in Adults and Children: 2017 Update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) and Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA). *Clin Infect Dis*. Mar 19 2018;66(7):e1-e48. doi:10.1093/cid/cix1085
 95. Hanson KE, Azar MM, Banerjee R, et al. Molecular Testing for Acute Respiratory Tract Infections: Clinical and Diagnostic Recommendations From the IDSA's Diagnostics Committee. *Clin Infect Dis*. Dec 17 2020;71(10):2744-2751. doi:10.1093/cid/ciaa508
 96. Hayden M, Hanson K, Englund J, et al. Infectious Diseases Society of America Guidelines on the Diagnosis of COVID-19: Molecular Diagnostic Testing. Infectious Diseases Society of America. Updated September 6, 2023. <https://www.idsociety.org/practice-guideline/covid-19-guideline-diagnostics/>
 97. Osmon DR, Berbari EF, Berendt AR, et al. Diagnosis and Management of Prosthetic Joint Infection: Clinical Practice Guidelines by the Infectious Diseases Society of Americaa. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. 2012;56(1):e1-e25. doi:10.1093/cid/cis803
 98. Woods CR, Bradley JS, Chatterjee A, et al. Clinical Practice Guideline by the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (PIDS) and the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA): 2023 Guideline on Diagnosis and Management of Acute Bacterial Arthritis in Pediatrics. *Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society*. 2023;13(1):1-59. doi:10.1093/jpids/piad089
 99. American Society for Microbiology. MolDX: Multiplex Nucleic Acid Amplified Tests for RespiratoryViral Panels (DL37301). <https://www.amp.org/AMP/assets/File/position-statements/2017/JointCommentLettertoNoridioanJEforMultiplexViralPanelTests-Respiratory-DL37301.pdf>

100. Schultz G, Bjarnsholt T, James GA, et al. Consensus guidelines for the identification and treatment of biofilms in chronic nonhealing wounds. *Wound Repair Regen*. Sep 2017;25(5):744-757. doi:10.1111/wrr.12590
101. Rhodes A, Evans LE, Alhazzani W, et al. Surviving Sepsis Campaign: International Guidelines for Management of Sepsis and Septic Shock: 2016. *Critical care medicine*. Mar 2017;45(3):486-552. doi:10.1097/ccm.0000000000002255
102. Weiss SL, Peters MJ, Alhazzani W, et al. Surviving Sepsis Campaign International Guidelines for the Management of Septic Shock and Sepsis-Associated Organ Dysfunction in Children. *Pediatr Crit Care Med*. Feb 2020;21(2):e52-e106. doi:10.1097/pcc.0000000000002198
103. O'Grady NP, Alexander E, Alhazzani W, et al. Society of Critical Care Medicine and the Infectious Diseases Society of America Guidelines for Evaluating New Fever in Adult Patients in the ICU. *Critical care medicine*. 2023;51(11):1570-1586. doi:10.1097/ccm.0000000000006022
104. Hill AT, Gold PM, El Solh AA, Metlay JP, Ireland B, Irwin RS. Adult Outpatients With Acute Cough Due to Suspected Pneumonia or Influenza: CHEST Guideline and Expert Panel Report. *Chest*. Jan 2019;155(1):155-167. doi:10.1016/j.chest.2018.09.016
105. CDC. Clinical Testing and Diagnosis for CDI. Updated March 6, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/c-diff/hcp/diagnosis-testing/index.html>
106. CDC. Clinical Guidance for Patients with Acute Respiratory Illness Being Hospitalized When SARS-CoV-2 and Influenza Viruses are Co-Circulating. Updated December 6, 2023. <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/hcp/clinical-guidance/testing-guidance-for-clinicians-hospitalized.html>
107. CDC. Multiplex Assays Authorized for Simultaneous Detection of Influenza Viruses and SARS-CoV-2 by FDA. CDC. Updated December 19, 2025. <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/hcp/testing-methods/flu-covid19-detection.html>
108. ASCP. ASCP Expands List of Commonly Used Tests Physicians and Patients Should Question. <https://www.ascp.org/news/news-details/2019/09/10/ascp-expands-list-of-commonly-used-tests-physicians-and-patients-should-question>
109. Ravn C, Neyt J, Benito N, et al. Guideline for management of septic arthritis in native joints (SANJO). *J Bone Joint Infect*. 2023;8(1):29-37. doi:10.5194/jbji-8-29-2023

Policy History

Approval Date	Description
08/06/2026	12/4/2026; Document updated. The following changes were made to Reimbursement Information: Added new #8. Molecular-based panel testing to screen for or diagnose joint infections (e.g., BIOFIRE® Joint Infection (JI) Panel, Synovasure® Comprehensive PJI Test Panel with SynTuition™) is not reimbursable. Added codes 87627, 0601U; removed codes 0441U, 0442U. References revised.
01/07/2026	04/24/2026; Added codes 87812, 0600U, 0610U. No other

	changes.
09/26/2025	01/03/2026; Revised #1 to state: 1. "For individuals who are displaying signs and symptom of a respiratory tract infection (see Note 1), Multiplex PCR-based panel testing (of up to 5 respiratory pathogens) (antigen panel testing or multiplex PCR-based panel testing) may be reimbursable." Added #2 "For individuals who are immunocompromised and who are displaying signs and symptoms of a respiratory tract infection (see Note 1), multiplex PCR-based panel testing of up to 25 respiratory pathogens may be reimbursable." Revised #3 to state: "For all situations not described above, antigen panel testing or multiplex PCR-based panel testing of 6 or more respiratory pathogens is not reimbursable." Added Note 1 with signs and symptoms of respiratory tract infection. Added codes 87428, 0556U, 0563U, 0564U; removed codes 0240U, 0241U, 0370U, 0373U, 0374U. References revised
08/01/2025	08/08/2025; Added codes 0590U, 0593U effective 10/1/2025.
01/23/2025	04/15/2025; Added codes 0202U, 0223U, 0225U, and 0531U. No other changes.
11/19/2024	01/15/2025: Added new CPT code 0528U effective 01/01/2025.
10/30/2024	01/15/2025: Document updated with literature review. The following changes were made to Reimbursement Information: Added note indicating the policy is specific to testing in the outpatient setting. Statements revised to remove leading "In the outpatient setting.." Added codes 0441U, 0442U, 0480U, 0504U; removed codes 0151U, 0416U. References updated; some added, others updated, some removed.
03/01/2024	03/01/2024: Added code 0416U. No other changes made.
11/01/2023	11/01/2023: Document updated with literature review. The following changes were made to the Reimbursement Information section: Removed 5. Using molecular-based panel testing for general screening of microorganisms is not reimbursable. These tests include, but are not limited to, the following: Molecular-based panel testing of vaginal swabs, such as SmartJane™; Molecular-based panel testing on urine samples, such as UroSwab®. Added GENETWORx Molecular PCR UTI Test as an example to the new #5; added GENETWORx PCR Wound Testing to #6; added 7: Molecular-based panel testing for general screening of microorganisms (e.g., MicroGenDX qPCR+NGS) is not reimbursable. Other changes made for clarity. References revised.
11/01/2022	11/01/2022: New policy