



PURPOSE

To outline the requirements for the use of laboratory test panels and profiles so only those test that are reasonable and necessary will be billed to Medicare.



POLICY

Hospitals may recognize panels developed by the American Medical Association (AMA) and adopted for reimbursement by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Hospitals may choose to permit custom profiles provided they are valid, documented, medically necessary, and monitored for appropriateness.

PROCEDURE

IMPLEMENTATION AND ANNUAL REVIEW

1. Laboratory personnel must review and verify applicable revisions are made to the chargemaster to ensure all custom profiles are established and maintained in accordance with this policy.
2. A custom profile is established as defined by the requesting physician and may be used only by that physician. Laboratory Directors are responsible for validating custom profiles by obtaining a signed Physician Acknowledgement annually from each physician for each custom profile utilized in the treatment of his/her patients. Hospitals must educate physicians regarding custom profiles.
3. All staff responsible for ordering, registering, performing, charging, coding, and billing laboratory tests must be educated on the contents of this policy.
4. The requirements and implementation of this policy must be reviewed on an annual basis. This review should be documented.

CUSTOM PROFILES compared to STANDING ORDERS

Standing Orders

- Cannot be repeated in intervals over a period of time
- New order must be completed at each visit on regular basis
- Must be deemed medically necessary

Custom Profiles

- Test repeated at regular intervals at a fixed period of time
- Typically in connection with extended course of treatment
- Must be deemed medically necessary

DAILY REVIEW

Individuals responsible for registering and/or ordering laboratory services must review each component test of a custom profile or medical necessity. The Facility Ethics and Compliance Committee is responsible for the implementation and monitoring of this policy within the facility.

UPCOMING: *Med-Lake Lab's Annual Notice*
will be published January 2023