

CPT CODE CHANGES FOR 2022

Test #	Test Name	Previous CPT Code	2022 CPT Code
1754	Pancreatic Elastase, Fecal	83520	82653
7727	Interleukin 6 by MAFD	83520	83529
10141	Aquaporin-4 Receptor Antibody	83516	86051
9736	Endomysial Antibody IgG	86256	86231
2415	Endomysial Antibody IgA by IFA	86256	86231
9317	Smooth Muscle IgG Antibody	83516	86015
7656	Gliadin Antibody, IgG	83516	86258
7657	Gliadin Antibody, IgA	83516	86258
7655	Tissue Transglutaminase, IgA	83516	86364
7654	Tissue Transglutaminase, IgG	83516	86364
7542	Celiac Panel I	83516x4	86258x2, 86364x2
7543	Celiac Panel 2	82784, 83516x2	82784, 86364x2
1304	Gastrointestinal Profile	86003x12, 83516x4	86003x12, 86258x2, 86364x2
7700	Immunoglobulin Free Light Chains, Serum	83520x2	83521x2
595	Mitochondrial M2 Antibody IgG	83516	86381
7728	Toll-Like Receptor Function Assay	86353x6, 83520x3	86353x5, 83520x2, 83529
7726	ANCA, IgG by IFA	86255	86036
8120	IBD Differentiation	86671x2, 86255	86671x2, 86036
7815	IFE with Free Light Chains, Quant, Urine	84156, 86335, 83520x2	84156, 86335, 83521x2
4972	Free Light Chains, Quantitative, Urine	84156, 83520x2	84156, 83521x2
9781	ANCA Panel	83516x2, 86255	83516x2, 86036

BILLING DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAFFING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Jamie Loch was hired in June as the new Billing Administrator. She comes to us with 20+ years of billing experience and is available to assist clients and patients with any questions or concerns that they have regarding their invoices or statements.

Email: jloch@physlab.com / Direct Phone: 402-933-5729 / Fax: 402-738-5015

Sharon Christensen is our new client manager and was promoted in December. She will handle the monthly client adjustments/requests and will serve as the primary contact for all client billing questions.

Email: schristensen@physlab.com / Direct Phone: 402-738-5074 / Direct Fax: 402-932-5136

BILLING REMINDERS:

- Insurance Changes: Please provide accurate insurance that is provided at the time of the patient's visit. Many patients change insurance plans at the beginning of the year and we need this updated information in order to bill correctly for services. This includes the correct subscriber (person who carries the insurance), their DOB, and the correct policy (member number or identification number) and group numbers.
- Diagnosis Codes: Correct diagnosis codes are a necessity. Please ensure diagnosis codes are provided on every order as this is required to bill insurance.
- Correct provider: In order to bill insurance, a provider must be indicated on the order. If the patient has Medicare, a PECOS enrolled physician must order the tests. Refer to the following website to determine whether a provider is Medicare approved <https://data.cms.gov/provider-characteristics/medicare-provider-supplier-enrollment/order-and-referring>.
- Select the appropriate billing directives on the order.
 - Client Bill – Charges are billed back to your facility.
 - Insurance Bill – Charges are billed to the patient's insurance.
 - Patient Bill – Charges are billed directly to the patient (not to insurance).

When the billing information on the order is missing, inaccurate, or the diagnosis provided does not meet medical necessity, the billing team will fax requests to your office weekly. This information is needed to get the claim out in a timely manner. Please make sure you are faxing these requests back with the correct information within one week. If there is no response by the end of the week, the billing department will make a phone call in order to obtain the info. If there is no response, the charges will be billed back to the client.

UNSATISFACTORY PAPS – HPV TESTING

Beginning Jan. 3rd, due to manufacturer recommendations, HPV testing will no longer be performed on Unsatisfactory ThinPrep[®] pap smears that are acellular or which have insufficient squamous cellularity. There will be a statement on the report which states "This specimen has not been forwarded for HPV testing due to manufacturer recommendations regarding specimens which are acellular or which have insufficient squamous cellularity." It will replace the comment "This specimen has been forwarded for HPV testing per clinician" on those pap smear orders that are either **ACOG** (ages 30-65) or **Reflex HPV Any Diagnosis**, including those ordered with Reflex to 16/18 . The patient's insurance will not be billed for this initial unsatisfactory Pap smear.

INFLUENZA A/B & RSV TESTING NOW AVAILABLE IN-HOUSE

Physicians Laboratory is now offering a new PCR Influenza A/B and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) assay performed on the Luminex[®] ARIES[®] instrument. The Luminex[®] ARIES[®] Flu A/B & RSV Assay can detect and differentiate influenza A (H1N1 and H3N2), influenza B (Yamagata and Victoria), and RSV (RSV-A and RSV-B) directly from a nasopharyngeal swab transported in appropriate viral transport media. (Saline transport or saliva are NOT acceptable for this assay and are used for SARS-CoV-2 testing only). The tests may be ordered individually or as a combination.

Specimen Transport	Temperature & Stability
Nasopharyngeal swab in viral transport media (M4, UTM, or VTM)	2-8°C, 72 hours ≤-70°C, if delay in transport is anticipated (stable up to 8 months)

Test Number	Test Name	CPT(s)
10267	Influenza A and B Assay by PCR	87502
10268	Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Assay by PCR	87634
10269	Influenza A and B and RSV Assay by PCR	87502, 87634

MICROBIOLOGY IDENTIFICATION METHODOLOGY (MALDI-TOF) UPDATE

The microbiology department will begin performing all in-house bacterial and yeast identification utilizing the Bruker Scientific MALDI-TOF Biotyper CA Smart System.

MALDI-TOF (matrix-assisted laser-induced desorption ionization – time of flight) is mass spectrometry technology with high accuracy and sensitivity approved for identification of many bacterial and fungal isolates. Because the mass spectrum generated in MALDI-TOF is organism-specific for a large multitude of microorganisms, it can be interpreted as a specific fingerprint and can be used for the microbial identification.

MALDI-TOF also allows for faster identification turnaround time; isolates can be identified within 18-24 hours compared to 48 hours with traditional biochemical methods. Identifications will be sent in preliminary reports whenever possible. Susceptibility testing will still require approximately 48 hours from culture set-up to report. Isolates may be called Presumptive when the identification has not been verified in-house but is approved by the manufacturer and FDA.

DIRECT IDENTIFICATION FROM POSITIVE BLOOD CULTURES NOW AVAILABLE

Bruker's MBT Sepsityper® IVD Kit, used in conjunction with the IVD-CE MALDI Biotyper® (MBT), allows for direct identification of common pathogens from positive blood cultures. It is designed to aid in the early diagnosis of bacteremia and fungemia (yeast) from positively flagged blood culture bottles. The MBT Sepsityper® IVD Kit provides a cost-effective, efficient workflow that improves patient care and reduces the time taken to de-escalate patients from empiric therapy, towards more effective and targeted treatment.

The following isolates were verified by Physicians Laboratory and can be reported from the Sepsityper kit

<i>Aerococcus viridans</i>	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	<i>Micrococcus luteus</i>	<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i>	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> *
<i>Candida albicans</i>	<i>Klebsiella (Enterobacter) aerogenes</i>	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	<i>Staphylococcus hominis</i>	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> (Group A)
<i>Clostridium sordellii</i>	<i>Klebsiella oxytoca/ Raoultella ornithinolytica</i>	<i>Salmonella</i> species	<i>Staphylococcus warneri</i>	
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>	<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i> (Group B)	

MICROBIOLOGY ANTIBIOTIC REPORTING UPDATES

Susceptibility reporting changes will occur due to the implementation of new antimicrobial susceptibility panels for most Gram-positive and Gram-negative organisms.

The new panels will allow for minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) interpretations to be updated to the most current CLSI standards for:

- Enterobacterales (fluoroquinolones, cephalosporins, and carbapenems)
- *Acinetobacter* spp. (carbapenems)
- *P. aeruginosa* (fluoroquinolones, carbapenems, and piperacillin/tazobactam)
- Enterococci (daptomycin)
- Staphylococci (levofloxacin, linezolid, and moxifloxacin)

New antibiotics that may be reported, depending on the isolate identification, include:

- Ceftolozane/tazobactam
- Ceftaroline
- Cefuroxime
- Chloramphenicol
- Ertapenem
- Meropenem/vaborbactam
- Moxifloxacin

MICROBIOLOGY CULTURE WORK-UP UPDATES

The microbiology department will begin implementing new standard operating procedures (SOPs) for the workup of multiple culture types including wounds, sterile sites, and urine cultures. This will result in slight changes to reporting in the following ways:

- To what extent organisms are identified and reported in mixed cultures or cultures contaminated with normal flora.
- If antimicrobial susceptibility testing is indicated in mixed cultures or cultures contaminated with normal flora.

The changes to the microbiology SOPs are based on the most current recommendations from the American Society of Microbiology, the Infectious Disease Society of America, the Center for Disease Control, the College of American Pathologists, and other scientific literature available.

If there are any questions, please contact Jean Fisher or Kayleigh Griffin in the microbiology laboratory.

CLIENT SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staffing Omaha Lab: We strive to assist you as efficiently as possible; therefore, we wanted to inform you that the Client Service department at our Omaha facility is undergoing some transition. We are very excited to bring on a new full-time staff member who will eventually become your primary Client Service contact as Brooke Duple steps into her new role as Clinical Processing Supervisor. While Brooke is still available for questions, her primary role will encompass administration and employee management/training. We thank you for your patience during this transition.

Online Tools: We know your time is valuable and are always happy to assist you by phone; however, for your added convenience, you can also visit our website <http://www.physlab.com/providers> to order supplies, view our test directory, download forms, or request online access to results.

NOW OFFERED AT PHYSICIANS LABORATORY

In order to offer faster turn-around-time to our clients and patients, the following testing was brought in-house. Please visit our website at physlab.com in order to obtain specimen/stability requirements, methodology, and CPT codes.

2085	Albumin, Fluid
2086	Amylase, Fluid
2087	Cholesterol, Fluid
2088	Crystals, Fluid
248	Glucose, CSF Fluid
2089	Glucose, Fluid
2090	LDH, Fluid
256	Protein, CSF Fluid
2091	Protein, Fluid
2092	Triglyceride, Fluid
2094	Uric Acid, Fluid