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# Prostate Specific Antigen

MEDICAL POLICY NUMBER: 319

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**INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE:** Company Medical Policies serve as guidance for the administration of plan benefits. Medical policies do not constitute medical advice nor a guarantee of coverage. Company Medical Policies are reviewed annually and are based upon published, peer-reviewed scientific evidence and evidence-based clinical practice guidelines that are available as of the last policy update. The Company reserves the right to determine the application of medical policies and make revisions to medical policies at any time. The scope and availability of all plan benefits are determined in accordance with the applicable coverage agreement. Any conflict or variance between the terms of the coverage agreement and Company Medical Policy will be resolved in favor of the coverage agreement. Coverage decisions are made on the basis of individualized determinations of medical necessity and the experimental or investigational character of the treatment in the individual case. In cases where medical necessity is not established by policy for specific treatment modalities, evidence not previously considered regarding the efficacy of the modality that is presented shall be given consideration to determine if the policy represents current standards of care.

**SCOPE:** Providence Health Plan, Providence Health Assurance, Providence Plan Partners, and Ayin Health Solutions as applicable (referred to individually as “Company” and collectively as “Companies”).

## PLAN PRODUCT AND BENEFIT APPLICATION

Commercial

Medicaid/OHP\*

Medicare\*\*

### \*Medicaid/OHP Members

*Oregon*: Services requested for Oregon Health Plan (OHP) members follow the OHP Prioritized List and Oregon Administrative Rules (OARs) as the primary resource for coverage determinations. Medical policy criteria below may be applied when there are no criteria available in the OARs and the OHP Prioritized List.

### \*\*Medicare Members

This *Company* policy may be applied to Medicare Plan members only when directed by a separate *Medicare* policy. Note that investigational services are considered “**not medically necessary**” for Medicare members.

## COVERAGE CRITERIA

Note: *Screening* prostate specific antigen (PSA) tests are not addressed by this medical policy or the NCD discussed in [Policy Guidelines](#). They also should **not** be reported using CPT code 84153.

- I. Prostate specific antigen testing may be considered **medically necessary and covered** when any of the following criteria are met (A.-D.):
  - A. To differentiate benign from malignant disease in men with lower urinary tract signs and symptoms (e.g., hematuria, slow urine stream, hesitancy, urgency, frequency, nocturia and incontinence); **or**
  - B. For the treatment of patients with palpably abnormal prostate glands on physician exam; **or**
  - C. For the treatment of patients with other laboratory or imaging studies that suggest the possibility of a malignant prostate disorder; **or**
  - D. To follow the progress of prostate cancer once a diagnosis has been established (e.g. detecting metastatic or persistent disease in patients who may require additional treatment; **or**
  - E. For the differential diagnosis of patients presenting with as yet undiagnosed disseminated metastatic disease.
  
- II. Prostate specific antigen testing is considered **not medically necessary and not covered** when criterion I. above is not met, including but not limited to either of the following (A.-B.):
  - A. More than one test per year for patients with lower urinary tract signs or symptoms unless there is a change in the patient’s medical condition;

- B. More than one test with a diagnosis of in situ carcinoma, unless the result is abnormal.

Link to [Evidence Summary](#)

## POLICY CROSS REFERENCES

None

The full Company portfolio of current Medical Policies is available online and can be [accessed here](#).

## POLICY GUIDELINES

This policy may be primarily based on the following Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidances:

- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Prostate Specific Antigen (190.31)<sup>1</sup> and the Medicare NCD Coding Policy Manual and Change Report (ICD-10-CM).<sup>2</sup>

### BACKGROUND

Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA), a tumor marker for adenocarcinoma of the prostate, can predict residual tumor in the post-operative phase of prostate cancer. Three to six months after radical prostatectomy, PSA is reported to provide a sensitive indicator of persistent disease. Six months following introduction of antiandrogen therapy, PSA is reported as capable of distinguishing patients with favorable response from those in whom limited response is anticipated.

PSA when used in conjunction with other prostate cancer tests, such as digital rectal examination, may assist in the decision-making process for diagnosing prostate cancer. PSA also, serves as a marker in following the progress of most prostate tumors once a diagnosis has been established. This test is also an aid in the management of prostate cancer patients and in detecting metastatic or persistent disease in patients following treatment.

## BILLING GUIDELINES AND CODING

The following CPT/HCPCS codes may be covered when billed with one of the ICD-10 codes that Medicare has included as medically necessary in the most recent *Medicare National Coverage Determinations (NCD) Coding Policy Manual and Change Report (ICD-10-CM)*. Available for download at: [Lab NCDs – ICD-10](#).<sup>2</sup> Select the “Lab Code List ICD10 (ZIP)” file option that aligns with the date services were or will be rendered from the Downloads section. Open a spreadsheet and look for NCD 190.33 in column A. This resource can also be accessed directly from the NCD noted above, under “Revision History” and by selecting the applicable “Covered Code List” version. While these services do not require prior authorization, utilization may be subject to audit and all criteria from NCD 190.33 must be met. Thus, inclusion of a diagnosis (ICD-10) code on this list may not warrant automatic coverage.

Prostate specific antigen testing (CPT 84153) may only be covered when billed with one of the diagnosis codes with one of the ICD-10 codes included in the most recent “Medicare National Coverage Determinations (NCD) Coding Policy Manual and Change Report (ICD-10-CM),” available for download at “[Lab NCDs – ICD-10](#).”<sup>2</sup> Diagnosis codes listed below are current as of 9/20/2022:

C61	M3303	R319
C675	M3313	R32
C774-C775	M3393	R339
C778	N139	R350-R351
C7951-C7952	N320	R3911-R3912
C7982	N400-N403	R3914-R3916
D075	N419	R935-R937
D400	N429	R948
D49511-D49512	R310-R311	R9720-R9721
D49519	R3121	Z8546
D4959	R3129	

CODES*		
CPT	84153	Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA), total
HCPCS	None	

**\*Coding Notes:**

- The above code list is provided as a courtesy and may not be all-inclusive. Inclusion or omission of a code from this policy neither implies nor guarantees reimbursement or coverage. Some codes may not require routine review for medical necessity, but they are subject to provider contracts, as well as member benefits, eligibility and potential utilization audit.
- All unlisted codes are reviewed for medical necessity, correct coding, and pricing at the claim level. If an unlisted code is submitted for non-covered services addressed in this policy then it will be **denied as not covered**. If an unlisted code is submitted for potentially covered services addressed in this policy, to avoid post-service denial, **prior authorization is recommended**.
- See the non-covered and prior authorization lists on the Company [Medical Policy, Reimbursement Policy, Pharmacy Policy and Provider Information website](#) for additional information.
- HCPCS/CPT code(s) may be subject to National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) procedure-to-procedure (PTP) bundling edits and daily maximum edits known as “medically unlikely edits” (MUEs) published by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). This policy does not take precedence over NCCI edits or MUEs. Please refer to the CMS website for coding guidelines and applicable code combinations.

## REFERENCES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. National Coverage Determination (NCD: Prostate Specific Antigen (190.31) <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/view/ncd.aspx?ncdid=152&ncdver=1&bc=0>. Published 2003. Accessed 9/19/2022.

2. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Lab NCDs - ICD-10. <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coverage/CoverageGenInfo/LabNCDsICD10>. Published 2021. Accessed 9/19/2022.

## ***POLICY REVISION HISTORY***

<b>DATE</b>	<b>REVISION SUMMARY</b>
2/2023	Converted to new policy template.