

If a conflict arises between a Clinical Payment and Coding 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 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. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas may use reasonable discretion interpreting and applying this policy to services being delivered in a particular case. BCBSTX 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 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 PCS, National Drug Codes, Diagnosis Related Group guidelines, Centers for Medicare and 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/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.

## Cervical Cancer Screening

**Policy Number:** CPCPLAB002

**Version 1.0**

**Approval Date:** February 5, 2025

**Plan Effective Date:** May 15, 2025

## 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:

The criteria below are based on recommendations by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, the National Cancer Institute, NCCN, the American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology, the American Cancer Society, the American Society for Clinical Pathology, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Within these reimbursement criteria, "individual(s)" is specific to individuals with a cervix.

1. For immunocompromised or immunosuppressed individuals, **any one** of the following cervical cancer screening techniques **may be reimbursable**:
  - a. Annual cervical cytology testing for individuals of all ages.
  - b. Co-testing (cervical cytology and high-risk HPV testing) once every 3 years for individuals 30 years of age or older.
2. For individuals 21 to 29 years of age, cervical cancer screening once every 3 years using conventional or liquid based Papanicolaou (Pap) smears **may be reimbursable**.
3. For individuals 30 to 65 years of age, **any one** of the following cervical cancer screening techniques **may be reimbursable**:
  - a. Conventional or liquid based Pap smear once every 3 years;
  - b. Cervical cancer screening using the high-risk HPV test alone once every 5 years;
  - c. Co-testing (cytology with concurrent high-risk HPV testing) once every 5 years.
4. For individuals who are over 65 years of age **and** who are considered high-risk (individuals with a high-grade precancerous lesion or cervical cancer, individuals with in-utero exposure to diethylstilbestrol (DES), cervical cancer screening at the frequency described in reimbursement criterion 3 **may be reimbursable**.
5. For individuals who are HPV positive **and** cytology negative, nucleic acid testing for high-risk strains HPV-16 and HPV-18 **may be reimbursable**.
6. For individuals 65 years of age or younger, annual cervical cancer screening by Pap smear or HPV testing **may be reimbursable** in the following situations:

- a. For individuals who had a previous cervical cancer screen with an abnormal cytology result and/or who was positive for HPV;
  - b. For individuals at high risk for cervical cancer (organ transplant, exposure to the drug DES).
7. For all situations not addressed above, cervical cancer screening (cervical cytology, HPV testing) for individuals less than 21 years of age **is not reimbursable**.
8. For individuals over 65 years of age who are not considered high risk **and** who have an adequate screening history, routine cervical cancer screening **is not reimbursable**. Adequate screening history is defined as either:
- a. Having three consecutive negative Pap smears;
  - b. Having two consecutive negative HPV tests within 10 years before cessation of screening, with the most recent test occurring within 5 years.
9. For individuals who have undergone surgical removal of the uterus and cervix and who have no history of cervical cancer or pre-cancer, cervical cancer screening (at any age) **is not reimbursable**.
10. The following **are not reimbursable**:
- a. Inclusion of low-risk strains of HPV in co-testing;
  - b. Other technologies for cervical cancer screening.

## 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.

Codes
87623, 87624, 87625, 87626, 88141, 88142, 88143, 88147, 88148, 88150, 88152, 88153, 88164, 88165, 88166, 88167, 88174, 88175, 0500T, 0502U, G0123, G0124, G0141, G0143, G0144, G0145, G0147, G0148, G0476, P3000, P3001, Q0091

## References:

ACOG. (2020, October 9). *Updated Guidelines for Management of Cervical Cancer Screening Abnormalities*. <https://www.acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/practice->

- advisory/articles/2020/10/updated-guidelines-for-management-of-cervical-cancer-screening-abnormalities
- ACOG. (2021, April 12). *Updated Cervical Cancer Screening Guidelines*.  
<https://www.acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/practice-advisory/articles/2021/04/updated-cervical-cancer-screening-guidelines>
- ACS. (2023, January 12, 2023). *Key Statistics for Cervical Cancer*. American Cancer Society, Inc. Retrieved 06/05/2023 from <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/cervical-cancer/about/key-statistics.html>
- ASCO. (2022). Secondary Prevention of Cervical Cancer: ASCO Resource-Stratified Guideline Update. <https://old-prod.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/practice-patients/documents/2022-Cervical-Cancer-Secondary-Prev-RS-Summary-Table.pdf>
- Bonde, J. H., Sandri, M. T., Gary, D. S., & Andrews, J. C. (2020). Clinical Utility of Human Papillomavirus Genotyping in Cervical Cancer Screening: A Systematic Review. *J Low Genit Tract Dis*, 24(1), 1-13.  
<https://doi.org/10.1097/lgt.0000000000000494>
- Chen, H. C., Schiffman, M., Lin, C. Y., Pan, M. H., You, S. L., Chuang, L. C., Hsieh, C. Y., Liaw, K. L., Hsing, A. W., & Chen, C. J. (2011). Persistence of type-specific human papillomavirus infection and increased long-term risk of cervical cancer. *J Natl Cancer Inst*, 103(18), 1387-1396. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jnci/djr283>
- Dahlstrom, L. A., Ylitalo, N., Sundstrom, K., Palmgren, J., Ploner, A., Eloranta, S., Sanjeevi, C. B., Andersson, S., Rohan, T., Dillner, J., Adami, H. O., & Sparen, P. (2010). Prospective study of human papillomavirus and risk of cervical adenocarcinoma. *Int J Cancer*, 127(8), 1923-1930.  
<https://doi.org/10.1002/ijc.25408>
- Dilley, S., Huh, W., Blechter, B., & Rositch, A. F. (2021). It's time to re-evaluate cervical Cancer screening after age 65. *Gynecol Oncol*, 162(1), 200-202.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ygyno.2021.04.027>
- EASC. (2023). Guidelines Version 12.0. <https://www.eacsociety.org/guidelines/eacs-guidelines/>
- FDA. (2018). *BD ONCLARITY HPV ASSAY*.  
<https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/devicesatfda/index.cfm?db=pma&id=391601>
- FDA. (2023a). *BD ONCLARITY HPV ASSAY*. U.S. Food & Drug Administration. Retrieved 06/05/2023 from  
<https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/devicesatfda/index.cfm?db=pma&id=391601>
- FDA. (2023b). *Cobas HPV For Use On The Cobas 6800/8800 Systems*.  
<https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/devicesatfda/index.cfm?db=pma&id=448383>
- FDA. (2023c). *PMA Monthly approvals from 7/1/2018 to 7/31/2018*. Food and Drug Agency.  
<https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfpma/pma.cfm?ID=409848>

- Feldman, S., & Crum, C. (2023, May 2, 2022). *Cervical cancer screening tests: Techniques for cervical cytology and human papillomavirus testing*. <https://www.uptodate.com/contents/cervical-cancer-screening-tests-techniques-for-cervical-cytology-and-human-papillomavirus-testing>
- Feldman, S., Goodman, A., & Peipert, J. (2024, May 23, 2023). *Screening for cervical cancer in resource-rich settings*. <https://www.uptodate.com/contents/screening-for-cervical-cancer-in-resource-rich-settings>
- Fontham, E. T. H., Wolf, A. M. D., Church, T. R., Etzioni, R., Flowers, C. R., Herzig, A., Guerra, C. E., Oeffinger, K. C., Shih, Y. T., Walter, L. C., Kim, J. J., Andrews, K. S., DeSantis, C. E., Fedewa, S. A., Manassaram-Baptiste, D., Saslow, D., Wender, R. C., & Smith, R. A. (2020). Cervical cancer screening for individuals at average risk: 2020 guideline update from the American Cancer Society. *CA Cancer J Clin*, *70*(5), 321-346. <https://doi.org/10.3322/caac.21628>
- HHS. (2024). Guidelines for the Prevention and Treatment of Opportunistic Infections in Adults and Adolescents With HIV. <https://clinicalinfo.hiv.gov/en/guidelines/hiv-clinical-guidelines-adult-and-adolescent-opportunistic-infections/human>
- Huh, W. K., Ault, K. A., Chelmow, D., Davey, D. D., Goulart, R. A., Garcia, F. A., Kinney, W. K., Massad, L. S., Mayeaux, E. J., Saslow, D., Schiffman, M., Wentzensen, N., Lawson, H. W., & Einstein, M. H. (2015). Use of primary high-risk human papillomavirus testing for cervical cancer screening: interim clinical guidance. *J Low Genit Tract Dis*, *19*(2), 91-96. <https://doi.org/10.1097/lgt.000000000000103>
- Marchand, L., Mundt, M., Klein, G., & Agarwal, S. C. (2005). Optimal collection technique and devices for a quality pap smear. *Wmj*, *104*(6), 51-55.
- Massad, L. S. (2018). Replacing the Pap Test With Screening Based on Human Papillomavirus Assays. *Jama*, *320*(1), 35-37. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2018.7911>
- Melnikow, J., Henderson, J. T., Burda, B. U., Senger, C. A., Durbin, S., & Weyrich, M. S. (2018). Screening for Cervical Cancer With High-Risk Human Papillomavirus Testing: Updated Evidence Report and Systematic Review for the US Preventive Services Task Force. *Jama*, *320*(7), 687-705. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2018.10400>
- Mendez, K., Romaguera, J., Ortiz, A. P., Lopez, M., Steinau, M., & Unger, E. R. (2014). Urine-based human papillomavirus DNA testing as a screening tool for cervical cancer in high-risk women. *Int J Gynaecol Obstet*, *124*(2), 151-155. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijgo.2013.07.036>
- Moscicki, A. B., Flowers, L., Huchko, M. J., Long, M. E., MacLaughlin, K. L., Murphy, J., Spiryda, L. B., & Gold, M. A. (2019). Guidelines for Cervical Cancer Screening in Immunosuppressed Women Without HIV Infection. *J Low Genit Tract Dis*, *23*(2), 87-101. <https://doi.org/10.1097/lgt.0000000000000468>
- NCCN. (2024, April 28, 2023). *NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines(R)) - Cervical Cancer Version 3.2024*. [https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/pdf/cervical.pdf](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/cervical.pdf)

- NCI. (2024, April 21, 2023). *Cervical Cancer Screening (PDQ®)–Health Professional Version*. National Institutes of Health.  
<https://www.cancer.gov/types/cervical/hp/cervical-screening-pdq>
- Ogilvie, G. S., van Niekerk, D., Kraijden, M., Smith, L. W., Cook, D., Gondara, L., Ceballos, K., Quinlan, D., Lee, M., Martin, R. E., Gentile, L., Peacock, S., Stuart, G. C. E., Franco, E. L., & Coldman, A. J. (2018). Effect of Screening With Primary Cervical HPV Testing vs Cytology Testing on High-grade Cervical Intraepithelial Neoplasia at 48 Months: The HPV FOCAL Randomized Clinical Trial. *Jama*, *320*(1), 43-52. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2018.7464>
- Pathak, N., Dodds, J., Zamora, J., & Khan, K. (2014). Accuracy of urinary human papillomavirus testing for presence of cervical HPV: systematic review and meta-analysis. *Bmj*, *349*, g5264. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.g5264>
- Pry, J. M., Manasyan, A., Kapambwe, S., Taghavi, K., Duran-Frigola, M., Mwanahamuntu, M., Sikazwe, I., Matambo, J., Mubita, J., Lishimpi, K., Malama, K., & Bolton Moore, C. (2021). Cervical cancer screening outcomes in Zambia, 2010-19: a cohort study. *Lancet Glob Health*, *9*(6), e832-e840.  
[https://doi.org/10.1016/s2214-109x\(21\)00062-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/s2214-109x(21)00062-0)
- Qin, J., Holt, H. K., Richards, T. B., Saraiya, M., & Sawaya, G. F. (2023). Use Trends and Recent Expenditures for Cervical Cancer Screening-Associated Services in Medicare Fee-for-Service Beneficiaries Older Than 65 Years. *JAMA Intern Med*, *183*(1), 11-20. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamainternmed.2022.5261>
- Rice, S. L., Editor. (2018, August 2018). Cobas HPV test approved for first-line screening using SurePath preservative fluid. *CAP Today*.
- Sabeena, S., Kuriakose, S., Binesh, D., Abdulmajeed, J., Dsouza, G., Ramachandran, A., Vijaykumar, B., Aswathyraj, S., Devadiga, S., Ravishankar, N., & Arunkumar, G. (2019). The Utility of Urine-Based Sampling for Cervical Cancer Screening in Low-Resource Settings. *Asian Pac J Cancer Prev*, *20*(8), 2409-2413.  
<https://doi.org/10.31557/apjcp.2019.20.8.2409>
- Sasieni, P., Castanon, A., & Cuzick, J. (2009). Screening and adenocarcinoma of the cervix. *Int J Cancer*, *125*(3), 525-529. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ijc.24410>
- USPSTF. (2018). Screening for Cervical Cancer: US Preventive Services Task Force Recommendation Statement USPSTF Recommendation: Screening for Cervical Cancer USPSTF Recommendation: Screening for Cervical Cancer. *Jama*, *320*(7), 674-686. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2018.10897>
- William R Robinson. (2024a, 01/19/2023). *Screening for cervical cancer in patients with HIV infection and other immunocompromised states*.  
<https://www.uptodate.com/contents/screening-for-cervical-cancer-in-patients-with-hiv-infection-and-other-immunocompromised-states>
- William R Robinson. (2024b, 05/23/2023). *Screening for Cervical Cancer in Resource-Risk Settings*. <https://www.uptodate.com/contents/screening-for-cervical-cancer-in-resource-rich-settings>
- Winer, R. L., Lin, J., Anderson, M. L., Tiro, J. A., Green, B. B., Gao, H., Meenan, R. T., Hansen, K., Sparks, A., & Buist, D. S. M. (2023). Strategies to Increase Cervical Cancer Screening With Mailed Human Papillomavirus Self-Sampling Kits: A

Randomized Clinical Trial. *Jama*, 330(20), 1971-1981.  
<https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2023.21471>

### Policy Update History:

<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Effective Date; Summary of Changes</b>
02/05/2025	05/15/2025; Document updated with literature review. The following changes were made to Reimbursement Information: Added immunocompromised to #1; revised 1a to include individuals of all ages (was individuals less than 30 years of age); revised 1b to state high-risk HPV testing; removed "or individuals who are immunocompromised" from #4; added "nucleic acid" to #5; Added "For individuals 65 years of age or younger" to #6 and removed "immunocompromised individuals" from 6b. Added code 87626. References revised.
09/13/2024	01/01/2025: New policy.