



Alaska Medicaid Policy Update

Drug Screening/Testing Policy

The Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) administers the Alaska Medicaid program. In accordance with 7 AAC 105.100, Alaska Medicaid will pay for a service only if it is medically necessary. For the purpose of medical treatment, Alaska Medicaid provides limited coverage of drug screening and testing to detect use of prescribed/controlled medications and/or illegal substances. As with all covered services, Alaska Medicaid may request medical records to establish medical necessity of drug screening or testing (7 AAC 105.240).

Effective beginning dates of service August 1, 2017, and thereafter, Alaska Medicaid will adopt the following policy on presumptive and definitive drug testing:

Presumptive Drug Tests (Physicians, APRNs, PAs, CHA/Ps)

- Presumptive Drug tests will be covered only when billed with 80305 or 80306 CPT codes.
- No other drug screens/tests will be covered when performed at the time of an evaluation and management office visit.
- The reimbursement for 80305 and 80306 covers screening of one specimen for all drugs tested and should be billed only once per day.
- Alaska Medicaid will reimburse for no more than 12 presumptive drug screenings (UDS) per calendar year per Medicaid member.

Definitive Drug Tests (Independent Lab, Hospital-based Lab)

- Definitive Drug tests will be covered only when billed through free-standing and hospital-based clinical laboratories. Alaska Medicaid will recognize CMS drug testing codes G0480-G0483 only.
- Reimbursement will not be made for 80300-80377 CPT codes.
- Definitive drug testing is considered medically necessary only when ordered to confirm a positive presumptive drug test, or when a negative result of presumptive test is inconclusive or inconsistent with clinical presentation.
- Definitive drug codes G0480-G0483 cover testing of one or more class(es) of drug(s) and should be billed only once per day.
 - **G0480** - 1-7 drug class(es), including metabolite(s) if performed
 - **G0481** - 8-14 drug class(es), including metabolite(s) if performed
 - **G0482** - 15-21 drug class(es), including metabolite(s) if performed
 - **G0483** - 22 or more drug class(es), including metabolite(s) if performed
- Alaska Medicaid will reimburse for no more than 12 Definitive drug testing codes (UDS) per calendar year per Medicaid member.

July 1, 2017