



**ALASKA MEDICAID POLICY CLARIFICATION**  
**Urine Drug Screening/Testing**

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 urine drug 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 urine drug testing (7 AAC 105.240).

**Qualitative Drug Screening**

Alaska Medicaid will pay for no more than 12 qualitative urine drug screening (UDS) per calendar year.

In most circumstances, qualitative UDS is sufficient to confirm both that the patient is using a prescribed controlled medications appropriately and that no other controlled medications and/or illegal substances are being used.

**Quantitative Drug Testing**

Under limited circumstances, quantitative drug testing is considered to be medically necessary. Alaska Medicaid will pay for no more than 12 quantitative drug tests per calendar year, and only if:

- ordered to confirm a positive qualitative UDS or if additional information about the positive result is required, and
- the claim is accompanied by clinical documentation that specifies why the quantitative test is medically necessary and how the results of the testing will be used to make clinical decisions about future treatment.

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