Precertification requirements for genetic testing codes

On March 1, 2015, UniCare Health Plan of West Virginia, Inc. precertification requirements will change for certain genetic testing codes. Federal and state law, as well as state contract language and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services guidelines, including definitions and specific contract provisions/exclusions, take precedence over these precertification rules and must be considered first when determining coverage.

Noncompliance with new requirements may result in denied claims.

Precertification requirements will be added to the codes below:

- 81225 – CYP2C19 (cytochrome P450, family 2, subfamily C, polypeptide 19) (e.g., drug metabolism), gene analysis, common variants (e.g., *2, *3, *4, *8, *17)
- 81229 – Cytogenomic constitutional (genome-wide) microarray analysis; interrogation of genomic regions for copy number and single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) variants
- 81280 – Long QT syndrome gene analyses (e.g., KCNQ1, KCNH2, SCN5A, KCNE1, KCNE2, KCNJ2, CACNA1C, CAV3, SCN4B, AKAP, SNTA1 and ANK2); full sequence analysis
- 81381 – HLA Class I typing, high resolution (e.g., alleles or allele groups); one allele or allele group (e.g., B*57:01P), each

Not all precertification requirements are listed here – to find all precertification and code-specific requirements:

2. On the top menu bar, under OTHER UNICARE WEBSITES, select Providers.
3. Under Log In, select Medical and then Login.
4. Enter your credentials to log in.

Please share this notice with other members of your practice and office staff. For more information on this topic or questions about this provider bulletin, call the Customer Care Center at 1-800-782-0095.