



OUTREACH LABORATORY UPDATE DECEMBER 2010

New Test - Helicobacter pylori Antigen

Beginning 12/20/2010 Bellin Health Laboratory will begin performing the Helicobacter pylori Antigen test on stool specimens. Previously, this test had been sent to Mayo Medical Laboratories.

The test specimen remains the same: Stool collected in plastic container sent frozen or refrigerated within 72 hours. The test will be performed Monday through Friday. The CPT code remains as 87338 and the base client price will be \$29.47.

CPT code/Price Change – Stool Cultures

Effective 12/13/2010 there will be a change in coding for Stool Cultures as well as pricing. There are no specimen changes.

When performing the Stool Culture, we are now able to differentiate between a Shiga toxin 1 and Shiga toxin 2 using an immunoassay method. A positive result for Shiga toxin will indicate this differentiation. This information may be helpful for decisions regarding treatment options.

Currently, we are charging out the following CPT codes:
87045, 87046, 87427, and 87015 with the base client price of 32.00.

Starting Monday 12/13/2010 we will be charging out the following:
87045, 87046, 87899 x 2, and 87015 with the base client price of 40.00.

Please note that this test may also reflex a definitive ID with additional charges if indicated.

Test Change – Endomysial Antibodies

Effective immediately, there has been a change in the price for Endomysial Antibodies performed at Mayo Medical Laboratory.

We were able to lower the base client price from \$82.98 to \$59.60. The specimen requirements and CPT code remain the same.

New Orderable Test – Celiac Sprue Serology Cascade

For those clients that order a “Celiac Sprue Panel” we will now be sending out to Mayo Medical Laboratory the basic Celiac Sprue Serology Cascade. Celiac testing has been both confusing and controversial. This Cascade, attempts to perform the least amount of testing necessary to diagnose celiac disease.

The test begins with a total IgA and if that is normal will progress to a Tissue Transglutaminase IgA. From there more reflex testing may be added (and charged) if indicated by the results of the TTG IgA. Please refer to our online catalog for more reflex testing information and the diagnostic testing algorithms.

The base client pricing is as follows:

Total IgA - \$30.05 CPT 85784

TTG IgA (reflex) - \$36.92 CPT 83516

TTG IgG (reflex) - \$30.32 CPT 83516

Gliadin IgA (reflex) - \$34.06 CPT 83516

Gliadin IgG (reflex) - \$34.06 CPT 83516

Endomysial Antibodies (reflex) - \$59.60 CPT 86256

Also be aware that there are more comprehensive testing cascades based on DNA testing and whether a patient is currently on a gluten-free diet. Only the basic Serology Cascade is currently orderable in our Meditech computer system.

New Orderable Tests

Effective immediately, the following tests may now be ordered through Meditech and may have reduced pricing attached. These tests will be forwarded to Mayo Medical Laboratories as they have in the past. Please access the on-line Bellin Health Laboratory Catalog for specimen requirements.

Manganese, Serum – CPT 83785 Base Client Price = \$50.28

Cytomegalovirus PCR, Quantitative, Plasma – CPT 87497 Base Client Price = \$93.80

Buprenorphine & Metabolite, Urine – CPT 83925 – Client Price \$126.00 - no discount available

Beta 2 Glycoprotein Antibodies, Serum – CPT 86146 x 3 – Base Client Price = \$98.10

Alcohol Biomarkers (Ethyl Glucuronide), Urine – CPT 80104 (G0434) – Client Price \$45.00 – no discount available

No discounts are available to Bellin or their clients for testing forwarded from Mayo Medical Laboratories to other reference laboratories.

Test Change – Alpha Subunit Pituitary Tumor Marker

Effective immediately, the Alpha Subunit Pituitary Tumor Marker test performed at Mayo Medical Laboratory has undergone some changes.

Methodology was: RIA (radioimmunoassay) Now: Immunochemiluminescent Assay

CPT code was: 83519 Now: 83520

Base Client price was: \$73.07 Now: \$55.85

Specimen remains as: Frozen serum removed from a plain red-top collection tube.

Happy Holidays from all the staff at

Bellin Health Laboratory!