

Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule & Laboratory Services Subject to Reasonable Charge Payment: April 2025 Quarterly Update

Related CR Release Date: March 13, 2025	MLN Matters Number: MM13966
Effective Date: April 1, 2025	Related Change Request (CR) Number: <u>CR 13966</u>
Implementation Date: April 7, 2025	Related CR Transmittal Number: R13104CP
Related CR Title: Quarterly Update for Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule (CLFS) and Laboratory Services Subject to Reasonable Charge Payment	

Affected Providers

- Laboratories
- Other providers billing Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for laboratory services they
 provide to Medicare patients

Action Needed

Make sure your billing staff knows about:

- When the next Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule (CLFS) reporting period for Clinical Diagnostic Laboratory Tests (CDLTs) begins
- New and deleted CPT codes effective April 1, 2025

Background

Under the <u>CLFS final rule</u>, reporting entities must give CMS certain private payor rate information for their component applicable laboratories.

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On September 26, 2024, Congress passed section 221 of the <u>Continuing Appropriations and Extension Act</u> (2025), which delayed data reporting requirements for CDLTs that aren't advanced diagnostic laboratory tests (ADLTs). It also delayed phasing in payment reductions under the CLFS from private payor rate implementation. See the changes below.

- The next data reporting period is January 1, 2026–March 31, 2026. It's based on the original data collection period of January 1, 2019–June 30, 2019.
- A 0% payment reduction applies to CDLTs that aren't ADLTs in CY 2025.
- In CYs 2026–2028, a 15% maximum payment reduction exists compared to the payment amount established for tests the previous year.
- CDLTs that aren't ADLTs have a 3-year data reporting cycle after the next data reporting period (that is, 2029, 2032, etc.).

ADLTs

See the **CMS ADLT** website for more information about these tests.

New Code Effective April 1, 2025

We've added CPT code G0567 to the national HCPCS file with an effective date of April 1, 2025. MACs don't need to manually add this new code to the HCPCS file; however, MACs will contractorprice CPT code G0567 (where applicable) until the annual Clinical Laboratory Public Meeting addresses it in June or July 2025.

The new code information is below:

- CPT Code: G0567
- Long Descriptor: Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); hepatitis C, screening, amplified probe technique
- Short Descriptor: Screening Hep C detect
- TOS: 5

Proprietary Laboratory Analysis (PLA) & Additional New Codes

The New Codes tab of the table attached to CR 13966 lists new codes effective April 1, 2025.

We added these codes to the HCPCS file with an effective date of April 1, 2025. MACs don't need to manually add these codes to the HCPCS file. However, these new codes are MAC-priced (where applicable) until they're nationally priced and undergo the CLFS annual payment determination process per sections 1833(h)(8), 1834(A)(c), and 1834(A)(f) of the <u>Social Security Act</u>. MACs only price PLA codes for laboratories within their jurisdiction.

Deleted Codes

The Deleted Codes tab of the table attached to CR 13966 lists codes deleted effective April 1, 2025.

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Note: MACs won't search their files to either retract payment or retroactively pay claims; however, MACs should adjust claims you bring to their attention.

More Information

We issued CR 13966 to your MAC as the official instruction for this change. For more information, find your MAC's website.

Document History

Date of Change	Description
March 17, 2025	Initial article released.

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