

December 1, 2004

CPT 2005 Update for Lab, Pathology Codes

Below are the new and revised codes for laboratory and pathology services. **As of January 1, 2005, Medicare will no longer allow a 90-day grace period to accommodate coding revisions.** Previously labs had until April 1 to retire codes that were active the previous year, but were discontinued for the current year. The demise of the grace period complies with the final HIPAA rule on electronic transactions and code sets. The rule requires use of the medical code set that is valid at the time the service is provided. These codes were obtained from the Current Procedural Terminology CPT 2005 book published by the American Medical Association. Questions concerning your utilization of the CPT codes should be addressed with your local carrier/payer, as coding may vary from one carrier to another.

New CPT Lab Codes for 2005 Medicare Lab Fee Schedule

Code	Test Name	Crosswalked to
Chemistry		
82045	Albumin:ischemia modified	83880-Natriuretic peptide
82656	Elastase, pancreatic (EL-1), fecal, qualitative, or semi-quantitative	83516-Immunoassay, non-antibody
83009	H. pylori;blood test analysis for urease activity, non-radioactive isotope (C-13)	83013-H. pylori (C-13), breath
83630	Lactoferrin, fecal, qual	83516-Immunoassay, non-antibody
84163	Pregnancy-associated plasma protein-A (PAPP-A)	84702-hCG
84166	Protein electrophoresis, urine, CSF	84165-Protein, electrophoresis, serum + 87015-Specimen concentration
Immunology		
86064	B Cells, total count	86359-T cells; total count
86335	Immunofixation electrophoresis; other fluids with concentration (eg, urine, CSF)	86334-Immunofix, electrophoresis, serum +87015-Specimen concentration
86379	Natural Killer (NK), cells, total count	86359-T-cells; total count
86587	Stem cells (i.e. CD34), total count	86359-T-cells; total count
Microbiology		
87807	Respiratory syncytial virus, with direct optical observation	87804-Influenza assay with optic
Cytopathology		
<i>New</i>		
88184	Flow cytometry, cell surface, cytoplasmic, or nuclear marker, technical component only; first marker	
88185	Each additional marker (List separately in addition to code for first marker)	
88187	Flow cytometry, interpretation; 2 to 8 markers	
88188	Flow cytometry, interpretation, 9 to 15 markers	
88189	Flow cytometry, interpretation, 16 or more markers	
<i>Deleted</i>		
88180	Flow cytometry, each cell surface, cytoplasmic or nuclear marker	

Lab Fees for Blood Draws

For blood draws, Medicare is replacing code G0001 with CPT 36415, collection of venous blood by venipuncture.