From: Lezlee Koch
To: AMRL Info Sharing; AMcK Lab Outreach;
Subject: Client Alert: Medicare LCD - Genetic Testing Includes Common PCR Types of Testing
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2008 5:29:51 PM
Attachment: Genetic Testing LCD Part B Medicare Part B Nov 07

IMPORTANT MEDICARE ALERT FOR REGIONAL LABORATORY CLINIC CLIENTS:

This note is to **ALERT** you and your providers that issues have been identified with a Part B Medicare LCD on Genetic Testing. The attached LCD (Nov 07) unfortunately is pulling all molecular types of testing under it. We are currently in the process of communication with Noridian Medicare and are requesting reconsideration of the LCD…. BUT IN THE MEAN TIME….

Some of the more common molecular testing listed below fall under this LCD:

-Prothrombin Nuc 20210
-Factor V Leiden by PCR
-MTHF Reduction Mutation
-Hemochromotosis Mutation Detection
-JAK2 Gene V617F Mutation
-FLT3 Mutation Detection
-Fragile X
-BCR/ABL
-CF Mutation
-MUSK by PCR

All the above testing on Medicare patients require diagnostic medical necessity verification as outlined in Medicare law. If the diagnosis/reason for testing is not determined to be an approved diagnosis found in the LCD beginning on page 8 and ending page 10 of the attached LCD the testing must be considered not medically necessary and requires that an ABN be filled out and submitted at the time of the testing request.

Please share this information with all appropriate healthcare providers that may order these types of genetic/molecular testing on Medicare beneficiaries.

If you have any questions on the LCD or Medicare coverage please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your assistance in disseminating this

information to the appropriate health care providers and professionals.