

WISCONSIN MEDICAID UPDATE

October 15, 1996

UPDATE 96-33

TO:

Dentists
Freestanding Ambulatory
Surgical Centers
HealthCheck Screeners
Independent Laboratories
Nurse Practitioners
Nurse Midwives
Outpatient Hospitals
Physician Assistants
Physicians
Podiatrists

CLIA Waived Tests

HCFA's new CLIA requirements

The federal Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) has issued new CLIA (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act) requirements for providers holding a certificate of waiver. (Wisconsin Medicaid reimburses these providers only for those tests that HCFA waives.) The new CLIA requirements are:

1. HCFA has deleted the temporary five digit "Q" or "G" codes effective for services provided on and after September 30, 1996. In place of the temporary codes, HCFA has assigned a physician's Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code with a new modifier to each waived test. The new modifier is "QW" (CLIA Waived Test).
2. HCFA has added new tests to the authorized list of waived tests.

Wisconsin Medicaid's implementation of HCFA's new CLIA requirements

Wisconsin Medicaid will pay providers using the temporary "Q" or "G" codes who submit claims before November 1, 1996. After October 31, 1996,

Wisconsin Medicaid requires providers who hold a certificate of waiver to submit claims using the listed CPT procedure codes with the "QW" modifier. Put the "QW" modifier in the modifier field on the claim form. Do not use the "QW" modifier for any other existing CPT codes.

CLIA Waived Tests Requiring the "QW" Modifier		
CPT Code Plus Modifier	Description	Deleted Q or G Code Equivalent
82044 QW	Microalbumin, urine, semiquantitative (e.g., reagent strip assay)	-----
82465 QW	Cholesterol, serum, total	G0054
82947 QW	Glucose:quantitative	-----
82950 QW	Post glucose dose (includes glucose)	G0055
82951 QW	Tolerance test (GTT), three specimens (includes glucose)	G0056
82952 QW	Tolerance test, each additional beyond three specimens	G0057
83718 QW	Lipoprotein, direct measurement; high density cholesterol (HDL cholesterol)	-----
84478 QW	Triglycerides	-----
85018 QW	Hemoglobin	Q0116
86588 QW	Streptococcus, screen direct	-----
87072 QW	Culture or direct bacterial identification method, each organism, by commercial kit, any source except urine	-----