



UIDL

U of I Diagnostic Laboratories

Annual Physician Notification Letter

May 29, 2008

As a participant in federally funded health care programs, the University of Iowa Health Care Department of Pathology developed and abides by a Laboratory Compliance Plan, as required by the Office of Inspector General (OIG), U.S. Department of Justice. The Laboratory Compliance Plan sets forth a requirement for annual notification to physicians regarding the ordering of diagnostic test procedures.

This document constitutes notification to you, the ordering physician or healthcare provider, of the following:

*Physicians and other health care providers should only order those tests they believe are medically necessary for the diagnosis, treatment and therapy of their patient.

*All test panels offered by University of Iowa Diagnostic Laboratories (UIDL) are Medicare designated panels. Custom panels are not available or encouraged.

*Organ and disease panels should only be used when all components are medically necessary. A diagnosis (ICD-9-CM) must be provided for each test ordered.

*The laboratory will not knowingly bill Medicare for tests that are not covered, reasonable or necessary.

*The OIG takes the position that an individual who knowingly causes a false claim to be submitted may be subject to sanctions or remedies available under civil, criminal and administrative law.

*The requesting facility must be aware of Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and National Coverage Determinations (NCD). Further information for these is available at [WPS Health Insurance](#).

*The ordering physician is responsible for ensuring that lab procedures requested are medically necessary by federal guidelines in order to bill Medicare. The Medicare program will allow the laboratory to bill the patient for non-covered services only if an Advance Beneficiary Notification (ABN) form is completed and signed by the patient. Under these circumstances, an ABN form must be submitted with the specimen. Failure to provide a valid, signed ABN form will result in charges to your practice if our initial claim is denied by Medicare. To acquire ABN forms or to receive instruction as to the use of the ABN form, contact the UIDL billing department at (319) 356-2991.

*Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Codes and information on available services are provided in the [UIDL Test Directory](#) as a convenience to our clients.

*Medicare Laboratory fee schedule is available at the [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services](#). Medicaid reimbursement will be equal to or less than Medicare reimbursement.

For more information regarding this communication, please contact [UIDL Client Services](#) at ph: (319) 384-7212 or (866) 844-2522. Clinical Consultants for areas of expertise are listed below:

Clinical Chemistry – Ron Feld, Ph.D. (319) 356-1756
Hematopathology – Nancy Rosenthal, MD (319) 384-8751
Microbiology – Sandra Richer, MD (319) 356-2990
Molecular Pathology – Aaron Bossler, MD, PhD (319-384-9566)

DeGowin Blood Center – Tom Raife, MD (319) 356-0369
Anatomic Pathology – Barry DeYoung, MD (319) 356-3264
Anatomic Pathology – Marcus Nashelsky, MD (319-353-7594)

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