VCU Health™
Department of Pathology Laboratories

Notification Date: March 18th, 2025
Effective Date: March 31st, 2025

Molecular Genetics Tests – Phase 2 for Prior Authorization

Effective March 31st, 2025, phase 2 of prior authorization for molecular genetics testing will be needed for the following tests:

Phase 1: Beginning 12/03/2024	Phase 2: Beginning 03/31/2025
• Hemochromatosis Mutation • Alpha Thalassemia, DNA Analysis • Calreticulin (CALR) Mutation Analysis • JAK2 Exon 12, 13, 14, & 15 Mutation Analysis by NGS • MPL Mutation Analysis	• Enhanced Liver Fibrosis (ELF) • Maternal Cell Contamination • MGMT Methylation Assay • UDP-Glucoronosyl Transferase 1A1 (UGT1A1), Full Gene Sequencing • BCR-ABL1 Mutation Analysis for TKI Resistance by NGS • APOE Alzheimer's Risk • Quantitative JAK2 V617F by ddPCR • Quantitative JAK2 V617F with reflex to CALR, MPL, JAK2 e12-15 by NGS • Non-Invasive Prenatal Test (NIPT) 13, 18, 21, X, Y ± 22q • MateriT21 Plus Core + SCA

The most frequent reason for reimbursement denial is "No Prior Authorization Obtained."

Because of this, Molecular Genetics tests are transitioning in phases from Epic ORDERS to REQUESTS. When a test request is placed in Epic, no lab labels will automatically print, and no sample will be collected at this point. Instead, the request will route to Pathology for review and then to the Revenue Cycle Operations team to obtain prior authorization approval. The Ordering Provider will be notified of authorization approval or denial throughout the process.

If authorization is approved, the lab will notify the patient to come to any of our 20 phlebotomy locations for specimen collection. Additional training materials are available in Epic.

For questions, please contact Pathology Client Services at (804) 828-7284 or email LabUtilizationWorkgroup@vcuhealth.org.