POLICY STATEMENT:

I. Based upon our criteria and review of peer-reviewed literature, cytochrome p450 (CYP450) CYP2D6 genotyping to determine drug metabolizer status may be considered medically necessary for patients:
   A. with Gaucher type I disease being considered for treatment with eliglustat; OR
   B. with Huntington disease being considered for treatment with tetrabenazine in a dosage greater than 50 mg per day.

II. Based upon our criteria and review of peer-reviewed literature, cytochrome p450 (CYP450) CYP2C19 genotyping is considered investigational for the purpose of aiding in the choice of clopidogrel versus alternative anti-platelet agents, or in decisions on the optimal dosing for clopidogrel.

III. Based upon our criteria and review of peer-reviewed literature, genotyping to determine cytochrome p450 (CYP450) genetic polymorphisms for the purpose of aiding in the choice of drug or dose to increase efficacy and/or avoid toxicity is considered investigational. This includes, but is not limited to, CYP450 genotyping for the following applications:
   A. selection or dosing of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRI),
   B. selection or dosing of antipsychotic drugs,
   C. selection and dosing of selective norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors,
   D. selection and dosing of tricyclic antidepressants,
   E. dosing of efavirenz (common component of highly active antiretroviral therapy for HIV [human immunodeficiency virus] infection),
   F. deciding whether to prescribe codeine for nursing mothers,
   G. dosing of immunosuppressant for organ transplantation, and
   H. selection or dose of beta blockers (e.g., metoprolol).

IV. Based upon our criteria and review of peer-reviewed literature, the use of genetic testing panels that include multiple CYP450 mutations is considered investigational.

Refer to Corporate Medical Policy # 2.02.33 regarding Genotyping - Cytochrome p450 2C9 (CYP2C9) and Vitamin K Epoxide Reductase subunit CI (VKORC) that Effect Response to Warfarin.

Refer to Corporate Medical Policy #11.01.03 regarding Experimental and Investigational Services.

POLICY GUIDELINES:

The Federal Employee Health Benefit Program (FEHBP/FEP) requires that procedures, devices or laboratory tests approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) may not be considered investigational and thus these procedures, devices or laboratory tests may be assessed only on the basis of their medical necessity.

DESCRIPTION:

Drug efficacy and toxicity vary substantially across individuals. Because drugs and doses are typically adjusted, if needed, by trial and error, clinical consequences may include a prolonged time to optimal therapy. In some cases, serious adverse events may result. Various factors may influence the variability of drug effects, including age, liver function, concomitant diseases, nutrition, smoking, and drug-drug interactions. Inherited (germline) DNA sequence variation
Validation of genotyping to improve pharmacologic treatment outcomes is a multistep process. In general, important steps in the validation process address the following:

I. Analytic validity: measures technical performance (e.g., does the test accurately and reproducibly detect the gene markers of interest).

II. Clinical validity: measures the strength of the associations between the selected genetic markers and dose, therapeutic efficacy, and/or adverse events.

III. Clinical utility: determines whether the use of genotyping for specific genetic markers to guide prescribing and/or dosing improves patient outcomes such as therapeutic effect, time to effective dose, and/or adverse event rate compared to standard treatment without genotyping.
Further discussion of the validation process is provided in a 2004 BCBS TEC Special Report. The purpose of the report was to provide background information on cytochrome p450 (CYP450) enzymes; genotyping applications for currently available drugs; examples of companies and products; evaluation of clinical utility; examples and the current state of evidence, regulatory issues, and cost-effectiveness analysis. The report offered the following observations and conclusions:

I. Although a genotyping assay may be designed to determine metabolizer status for a variety of enzymes and need only be performed once per patient to generate results relevant to a variety of drugs, whether or not the information is relevant for a particular drug must be validated for each drug of interest. A pharmacogenomic approach is most likely to be beneficial when the drug has a narrow therapeutic dose range (or some patients are non-responders), when the consequences of treatment failure are severe, and/or when serious adverse reactions are more likely in patients with certain gene variants.

II. The analytical validity of pharmacogenomic testing is likely to be high but should be evaluated for each marker of interest.

III. In several cases there is good retrospective evidence to support clinical validity. Data suggest a strong association between specific variant alleles and increased adverse events related to specific drugs or between specific variant alleles and final doses for specific drugs that are significantly different from expected. But such associations may not explain the majority of inter-individual variability in drug response. For example, although CYP2C9 genotype is an independent predictor of final warfarin dose, genotype in combination with known significant confounders explains only 30%-40% of the variation in final dose.

IV. Reduced activity in a particular CYP450 enzyme because of genotype may not affect outcomes when other metabolic pathways are available and when other confounders influence drug metabolism. Therefore, prospective studies of clinical utility are important to validate hypotheses generated by associational studies.

V. Without prospective evidence defining the effect of genotyping on such outcomes, there are few dosing recommendations based on genotype. In one example, Kirchheiner et al (2004) reviewed CYP2D6 and CYP2C19 polymorphisms and pharmacokinetic data for several antidepressants and antipsychotics to provide dose recommendations for use in prospective clinical trials. In general, tricyclic antidepressant dose reductions to about 30%-60% of standard were recommended for poor metabolizers, and increases of up to 250% for ultrarapid metabolizers. Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors have a wider therapeutic range and generally fewer adverse events; maintenance doses of 60%-100% of standard, depending on the drug, were recommended for poor metabolizers. However, these recommendations were largely extrapolated from data on genotype-dependent pharmacokinetics for use in future clinical trials; efficacy of the recommendations in routine clinical use has not been established.

Articles published since the TEC Special Report tend to be studies of the effect of variability in single genetic components in complex, multiple-component metabolic systems. Several studies show that a strong association of genotype with metabolizing enzyme activity does not necessarily lead to differences in clinical outcomes. For example:

I. High variability in the metoprolol area under the plasma concentration-time curve was associated with CYP2D6 genotypes, but there was no association between CYP2D6 genotype and drug-associated adverse effects or antihypertensive response rate/blood pressure changes. (Zineh, et al. 2004)

II. Cyclosporine oral clearance is correlated with CYP3A4 genotype, but the effect on cyclosporine dose requirement during maintenance therapy in transplant patients was small. (Hesselink, et al. 2004)

III. Among more than 2,300 children, adolescents, and adults participating in clinical trials of atomoxetine (Strattera), there were no differences between “normal” metabolizers (extensive metabolizers or EMs) and slow metabolizers (poor metabolizers or PMs) in serious adverse events experienced. While the FDA label describes associations of genotype with metabolizing enzyme activity, the FDA actively decided not to include a recommendation to perform genotyping prior to prescribing atomoxetine. Thus, genotyping for CYP2D6 poor metabolizers of atomoxetine is not recommended because the margin of safety is not exceeded and evidence to support guidelines for dosing such that patient outcomes are improved has not been collected.
IV. A review of pharmacogenomic studies of antidepressants and antipsychotics (Kirchheiner, et al. 2004) concluded that it is not yet possible to translate pharmacogenetic parameters into therapeutic recommendations, and that multigenic interactions and gene-environment interactions will need to be considered.

Other studies show promising associations between genotype and clinical parameters or outcomes, but none study prospective use of genotyping to direct patient management and determine effect on outcomes. For example:

I. Tacrolimus has a narrow therapeutic window in transplant patients and consequences of severe toxicity or acute rejection on either side of the target blood concentration range. Daily dose required to achieve the target blood concentration varied significantly according to CYP3A5 genotype. (Tsuchiya, et al. 2004)

II. CYP2D6 genotype is associated with risperidone adverse reactions and discontinuation due to adverse events. (de Leon, et al. 2005)

III. Combination CYP2C9 and CYP2C19 genotypes subdivide patients into five groups for which recommended phenytoin dose ranges have been calculated; prospective verification of improved outcomes awaits study. (Hung, et al. 2004)

In January 2007, an Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) report on CYP450 testing for adults treated with selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) for non-psychotic depression concluded that “There is a paucity of good-quality data addressing the questions of whether testing for CYP450 polymorphisms in adults entering SSRI treatment for non-psychotic depression leads to improvement in outcomes, or whether testing results are useful in medical, personal, or public health decision making.”

On March 12, 2010, the FDA approved a new label for clopidogrel with a “boxed warning” about the diminished effectiveness of the drug in patients with impaired ability to convert the drug into its active form. The boxed warning is based on the concern that the antiplatelet effect of clopidogrel depends primarily on its activation by the cytochrome P450 (CYP) system. Patients with decreased CYP2C19 function because of genetic polymorphisms metabolize clopidogrel poorly and have higher rates of cardiovascular events after acute coronary syndrome (ACS) and percutaneous coronary interventions (PCIs) than patients with normal CYP2C19 function. The warning also notes that tests are available to identify patients with genetic polymorphisms, and that alternative treatment strategies should be considered in poor metabolizers of the drug.

In response to the FDA “Boxed Warning” for clopidogrel use, the American College of Cardiology Foundation Task Force on Clinical Expert Consensus Documents and the American Heart Association published a report - ACCF/AHA Clopidogrel Clinical Alert: Approaches to the FDA “Boxed Warning”(2010). The report was developed to help guide practitioners and patients in prescribing pharmacogenomic testing to identify patients with altered clopidogrel metabolism which has been shown to increase their risk for a suboptimal clinical response to clopidogrel thus changing their treatment. The report emphasizes the FDA warning originated from a small unpublished crossover trial of 40 healthy patients receiving clopidogrel and evaluated pharmacokinetic and antiplatelet response. The chief findings were decreased active metabolite exposure and increased platelet aggregation in the poor metabolizers compared with the other groups. Seven recommendations for practice were put forward. The recommendations listed include that careful clinical judgment is required to assess the importance of the variability in response to clopidogrel for an individual patient and its associated risk to the patient. It has been shown the genetic variability in CYP causes variable response to clopidogrel however the specific impact of the individual genetic polymorphisms on clinical outcome remains to be determined. Information regarding the predictive value of pharmacogenomic testing is very limited at this time. Multiple studies are ongoing to address this issue. The evidence base is insufficient to recommend either routine genetic or platelet function testing at the present time. There is no information that routine testing improves outcome in large subgroups of patients. In addition, the clinical course of the majority of patients treated with clopidogrel without either genetic testing or functional testing is excellent. Genetic testing to determine if a patient is predisposed to poor clopidogrel metabolism (“poor metabolizers”) may be considered before starting clopidogrel therapy in patients believed to be at moderate or high risk for poor outcomes. This might include, among others, patients undergoing elective high-risk PCI procedures (e.g., treatment of extensive and/or very complex disease). For patients who experience poor response or adverse effects when taking clopidogrel, other treatment options are available such as use of higher loading doses or switching for clopidogrel to prasugrel.

Proprietary Information of Excellus Health Plan, Inc.
The evidence for testing for CYP2C19 metabolizer status by CYP2C19 genotyping in individuals with need for antiplatelet therapy who are undergoing or being considered for clopidogrel therapy includes 1 randomized controlled trial (RCT) of CYP2C19 genotype-directed antiplatelet therapy, observational studies and analyses or RCTs of clopidogrel therapy, and meta-analyses of these studies. Relevant outcomes include morbid events and treatment-related morbidity and mortality. Systematic reviews of observational studies report that genetic variants may be associated with a modest increase in the rate of stent thrombosis and clinical endpoints. CYP2C19 genotype has been associated with increased risk of thrombosis in patients with coronary disease or cardiac interventions being considered as candidates for clopidogrel treatment. This observation is most pronounced for stent thrombosis in patients undergoing percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI). The evidence addressing whether the use of CYP2C19 genotype-directed therapy improves outcomes is limited. One RCT comparing CYP2C19 genotype-directed antiplatelet therapy reported that patients receiving genotype-directed therapy had higher on-treatment platelet reactivity. However, the effect on clinical endpoints is not well understood. The evidence is insufficient to determine the effects of the technology on health outcomes.

Gaucher disease is a rare autosomal recessive lipid storage disease in which deficiency or absence of the enzyme β-glucocerebrosidase leads to lysosomal accumulation of the glycosphinoglipid glucosylceramide. Untreated, this accumulation can lead to a range of effects, including anemia and thrombocytopenia, splenomegaly, bone disease, pulmonary fibrosis, and central nervous system involvement. Gaucher disease has been treated through enzyme replacement or substrate reduction therapy. Eliglustat tartrate is an orally-administered selective inhibitor of glucosylceramide synthase which received FDA approval in 2014 and has been found in 3 phase III clinical trials to lead to improvements in hematologic metrics and organomegaly. Eliglustat tartrate is metabolized by CYP2D6 and CYP3A. FDA labeling requires that patients be selected on the basis of CYP2D6 metabolizer status as determined by genotype, with recommendations based on genotype about dosage and concomitant use of CYP2D6 and CYP3A inhibitors.

Huntington’s disease is an autosomal dominant genetic neurodegenerative disorder characterized by progressive cognitive and motor dysfunction, including chorea. In 2008, the FDA approved tetrabenazine as an orphan drug for the treatment of chorea in Huntington’s disease based on RCT evidence of improved chorea symptoms in ambulatory patients with Huntington’s disease. FDA labeling for tetrabenazine includes recommendations for genotyping for CYP2D6 for patients who are being considered for doses above 50 mg per day. The labeling states: “Patients requiring doses above 50 mg per day should be genotyped for the drug metabolizing enzyme CYP2D6 to determine if the patient is a poor metabolizer (PM) or an extensive metabolizer (EM). Maximum daily dose in PMs: 50 mg with a maximum single dose of 25 mg. Maximum daily dose in EMs and intermediate metabolizers (IMs): 100 mg with a maximum single dose of 37.5 mg.

The FDA labeling for the orphan drugs eliglustat (for Gaucher disease) and tetrabenazine (for Huntington disease) recommends CYP2D6 genotyping before use. There is limited published evidence about outcome changes associated with genotype-directed therapy for these medications. However, given the FDA labeling and the high variation in drug exposure based on metabolizer status, genotyping of CYP2D6 to determine metabolizer status before the use of these drugs is reasonable and may be considered medically necessary.

The evidence for testing for CYP2C19 metabolizer status by CYP2C19 genotyping in individuals with need for antiplatelet therapy who are undergoing or being considered for clopidogrel therapy includes 1 randomized controlled trial (RCT) of CYP2C19 genotype-directed antiplatelet therapy, observational studies and analyses or RCTs of clopidogrel therapy, and meta-analyses of these studies. Relevant outcomes include morbid events and treatment-related morbidity and mortality. Systematic reviews of observational studies report that genetic variants may be associated with a modest increase in the rate of stent thrombosis and clinical endpoints. CYP2C19 genotype has been associated with increased risk of thrombosis in patients with coronary disease or cardiac interventions being considered as candidates for clopidogrel treatment. This observation is most pronounced for stent thrombosis in patients undergoing percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI). The evidence addressing whether the use of CYP2C19 genotype-directed therapy improves outcomes is limited. One RCT comparing CYP2C19 genotype-directed antiplatelet therapy reported that patients receiving genotype-directed therapy had higher on-treatment platelet reactivity. However, the effect on clinical endpoints is not well understood. The evidence is insufficient to determine the effects of the technology on health outcomes.
The evidence for cytochrome P450 genotyping in individuals with a variety of clinical conditions undergoing or being considered for treatment with a drug that is metabolized by CYP450 enzyme(s) includes prospective and retrospective observational studies reporting associations with CYP450 metabolizer status and medication response or adverse effects. Relevant outcomes include symptoms, change in disease status, morbidity events, medication use, and treatment-related morbidity and mortality. Most published studies of CYP450 pharmacogenomics are retrospective evaluations of CYP450 genotype association with intermediate (e.g., circulating drug concentrations) or, less often, final outcomes (e.g., adverse events or efficacy) and are largely small and underpowered or not designed to examine the clinical effects of homozygous variant poor metabolizers (PMs) and of ultrarapid metabolizers (UM), where the strongest effects, if any, would be seen. The hazards associated with different metabolizer status are therefore uncertain. Decision-making regarding dose or medication selection changes in response to CYP450 metabolizer status is poorly defined, and outcome changes are uncertain. The evidence is insufficient to determine the effects of the technology on health outcomes.

CODES: Number Description

Eligibility for reimbursement is based upon the benefits set forth in the member’s subscriber contract.

CODES MAY NOT BE COVERED UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES. PLEASE READ THE POLICY AND GUIDELINES STATEMENTS CAREFULLY.

Codes may not be all inclusive as the AMA and CMS code updates may occur more frequently than policy updates.

CPT: 81225 CYP2C19 (cytochrome P450, family 2 subfamily c, polypeptide 19) (e.g., drug metabolism), gene analysis, common variants (e.g., *2, *3, *4, *8, *17)


81230 CYP3A4 (cytochrome P450 FAMILY 3 subfamily A member 4) (eg, drug metabolism), gene analysis, common variants (eg, *2, *22) (effective 1/1/2018)


81479 Unlisted molecular pathology procedure

81599 Unlisted multianalyte assay with algorithmic analysis

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Peripheral vascular disease, unspecified

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*Teresawa T, et al. Systematic reviews on selected pharmacogenetic tests for cancer treatment: CYP2D6 for tamoxifen in breast cancer, KRAS for anti-EGFR antibodies in colorectal cancer and BCR-ABL1 in tyrosine kinase inhibitors in


* key article

KEY WORDS:
Amplichip, CYP450, Cytochrome p450 Genotyping

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**CMS COVERAGE FOR MEDICARE PRODUCT MEMBERS**

There is currently a Local Coverage Determination (LCD) for Molecular Pathology Procedures. Please refer to the following LCD website for Medicare Members: https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/lcd-details.aspx?LCDId=35000&ver=59&CntrctrSelected=298*1&Cntrctr=298&s=41&DocType=All&bc=AggAAAIAIAAAAA%3d%3d&

There is currently no National Coverage Determination (NCD) or Local Coverage Determination (LCD) for the GeneSight® Psychotropic (AssureRx Health, Inc, Mason, OH) gene panel. However, effective 10/01/15 the Medicare Part-B carrier for Ohio, CGSAdministrators, LLC, established a favorable LCD for the GeneSight® Assay for Refractory Depression. This covers most of Medicare beneficiaries in all 50 states since the Assurex Health reference laboratory in Mason, Ohio, is within the sole jurisdiction of NHIC for purposes of Part-B coverage. Please refer to: https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/lcd-details.aspx?LCDId=35443&ver=9&CntrctrSelected=238*2&Cntrctr=238&name=+(15202%2c+MAC+-+Part+B)&s=42&DocType=Active&bc=AggAAQAIAAAAA%3d%3d&