

## Drug Testing

**Origination Date:** 04/02/2017

**Last Review:** 09/03/2025

**Update Notification:** 09/19/2025

**Effective Date:** 11/01/2025

### Description

Drug testing describes measuring for the presence or quantity of a drug in a patient's system. Drug testing is a key diagnostic and therapeutic tool for a number of medical conditions.

### Policy

Oscar only reimburses for specific, multiple drug class CPT and HCPCS codes for presumptive and definitive drug tests, as outlined below. Oscar considers all other drug testing codes to be unbundled and will not be separately reimbursed.

### Reimbursement Guidelines

**Presumptive** drug testing, also known as drug screening, is used when necessary to determine the presence or absence of drugs or a Drug Class. Results are expressed as negative or positive. The methodology is considered when coding presumptive procedures. Per Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) guidelines each presumptive drug testing code represents all drug and Drug Class tests performed by the respective methodology per date of service. The test is a single per member service that should only be reported once irrespective of the number of Drug Class procedures or results on any date of service.

**Definitive** drug testing, also known as confirmation testing, is used when it is necessary to identify specific medications, illicit substances and metabolites. Definitive urine drug test (UDT) reports the results of drugs absent or present in concentrations of ng/ml. Definitive drug testing is qualitative or quantitative to identify possible use or non-use of a drug. These tests identify specific drugs and associated metabolites. Consistent with CMS, definitive drug testing CPT codes 80320-80377 are considered non-reimbursable and the appropriate HCPCS G0480-G0483, or G0659 should be reported.

### Quantity Limits

Oscar will reimburse up to one definitive and one presumptive drug test per date of service, per member. A presumptive drug test is not required to be provided prior to a definitive drug test. Any units (presumptive or definitive) that exceed quantity guidance may be subject to a medical necessity review. The documentation should support the medical necessity of the drug testing ordered and should support the clinical indicators that led to ordering the test.

### Specimen Validity Testing

In alignment with the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI), Oscar does not allow separate reimbursement for specimen validity testing when utilized for drug screening. Specimen validity testing is included in the presumptive and definitive drug testing CPT and HCPCS code descriptions. Further, specimen validity testing is considered a quality control which is an integral part of the collection process and is not separately reimbursable.

### Coding

Applicable codes are for reference only and may not be all inclusive.

Code	Code Category
80305-80307, 83992, H0003	Presumptive Drug Test
G0480-G0483, G0659	Definitive Drug Test

81000-81003, 81005, 81099, 82570, 83986, 84311 Specimen Validity Testing

### **Related Policies**

1. Bundled Services
2. Medically Unlikely, Mutually Exclusive, and Component Procedures
3. Correct Coding Guidelines

### **References**

1. [CMS Billing and Coding: Urine Drug Testing \(A56818\)](#)
2. Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System
3. American Medical Association, Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®)

### **Publication History**

Date	Action/Description
4/02/2017	Original Documentation
4/20/2017	Approval and inclusion in Oscar Provider Manual
8/29/2018	Policy Updated
8/29/2019	Policy Updated
7/23/2024	Template updated; Policy reviewed and definitions of Drug Testing Added as well as updated language around quantity limits and coding requirements. No change to policy intent.
09/03/2025	Annual review; Updated Quantity Limits to one presumptive and one definitive test per service date, Added Specimen Validity Testing subsection to address NCCI edits, Added Specimen Validity Testing codes to Coding section, Added additional Oscar policies to Related Policies section, Updated link to CMS Billing and Coding: Urine Drug Testing (A56818).