

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. § 447.205, the Georgia Department of Community Health is required to give public notice of any significant proposed change in its methods and standards for setting payment rates for services.

BIOMARKER TESTING COVERAGE

The Department of Community Health (DCH) proposes to update the Medicaid and Peachcare for Kids coverage package to allow for biomarker testing as medically necessary. Effective date for the change will be September 15, 2023 pending final Board approval. Biomarker testing means the analysis of a patient's tissue, blood, or other biospecimen for the presence of an indicator of normal biological processes, pathogenic processes, or pharmacologic responses to a specific therapeutic intervention. Such term includes, but is not limited to, gene mutations, protein expression, known gene-drug interactions for medications, and characteristics of genes.

DCH will open Current Procedural Terminology codes 0037U, 0239U, 0172U, and 0345U for coverage. All biomarker testing codes will be open at eighty percent (80%) of the third quarter 2023 Clinical Diagnostic Laboratory Fee Schedule.

The change in methodology will result in an increase in State funded expenditures allocated by the Georgia Legislature in the 2023 legislative session as follows:

	State Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds
SFY 2024	\$199,194	\$448,064	\$647,258

This public notice is available for review at each county Division of Family and Children Services office. An opportunity for public comment will be held on **September 21, 2023 at 12:30 p.m., via Zoom audio**. There will be **no in-person** attendance at the Department of Community Health (DCH).

Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate during this meeting should call (404) 656-4479 at least three (3) business days prior to the scheduled public hearing to ensure any necessary accommodations can be provided.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81786708436?pwd=QUViR1BoV1doS0dIZHB4UFRLeHhidz09>

Meeting ID: 817 8670 8436

Passcode: 681722

One tap mobile

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- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
- +1 689 278 1000 US
- +1 719 359 4580 US
- +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
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- +1 564 217 2000 US

Meeting ID: 817 8670 8436

Passcode: 681722

Individuals wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **September 28, 2023**, to the Board of Community Health, Post Office Box 1966, Atlanta, Georgia 30301-1966. You may also email comments to Danisha Williams, danwilliams@dch.ga.gov or fax to 404-651-6880.

Comments submitted will be available for review by submitting a request via email to Danisha Williams, danwilliams@dch.ga.gov.

If the proposed changes are presented to the Board for final action, relevant comments from written and public testimony will be provided to the Board. The Board expects to vote on the proposed changes at the Board meeting to be held on **October 12, 2023** at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Community Health unless withdrawn or withheld by the Department for further review.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 14th DAY OF September 2023
Russel Carlson, Commissioner