

# Laboratory Services

Physician providers (MD, DO, ND or DPMs) may perform themselves or employ a lab tech that is able to perform routine testing in the office. Many send part or all of their lab work to a hospital or independent lab.

The provider actually performing the analysis of the specimen may bill for lab services. Laboratory services are reimbursed according to our medical policy and are paid to a fee schedule. Laboratory services performed in a physician's office are reimbursed to our laboratory fee schedule.

## Billing Guidelines for Laboratories

Please be sure to include the following information:

- Regence BlueShield-assigned practitioner or provider number
- Procedure codes and descriptions
- Diagnosis
- Name of the referring physician
- Place of service
- Modifier 90 should be used when sending laboratory specimens to reference laboratories.
  - This service is not eligible for additional reimbursement.

### Services Not Covered

- Handling
- Conveyance or stat fees

## Non-Participating Laboratories

Please remember that most Regence BlueShield and RegenceCare members are covered by plans that provide reduced or no benefits when services are provided by non-participating or non-network providers.

Your contractual obligation with Regence BlueShield requires you to refer Regence BlueShield members to contracted providers. If circumstances arise, and it is necessary to refer your patient to a non-participating or non-network provider, please communicate this to your patient to avoid subjecting him or her to unexpected bills.

For a complete list of all Regence BlueShield physicians and other provider types, go to our Web site at <http://www.wa.regence.com/provider/directory/index.html>

## Pathology Services

Pathology services are reimbursed using the standard fee schedule. Submit claims for pathology services in the same manner as laboratory services above.