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Colorado Dept of Health Care Policy & Financing
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Subject: Cystic Fibrosis Carrier Screening (pregnant & non- pregnant women)

Dear Ms Lucaci & Ms Michel:

I am writing to inquire about the Colorado Medicaid position related to carrier screening for Cystic Fibrosis. In the past this test has been covered by Colorado Medicaid as well as commercial payors; however, recently our Medicaid patients have been denied access to this routine screening test. Since this test is for both pregnant & non-pregnant women, I am writing to both of you.

Our practice uses the Heredi-T Cystic Fibrosis test available through Sequenom Laboratories. This particular Cystic Fibrosis test is unique, as it most closely aligns with the Johns Hopkins Cystic Fibrosis mutation database and identifies only mutations of clinical significance.

ACOG guidelines for cystic fibrosis carrier screening (ACOG Committee Opinion #486):

1. All patients regardless of ethnicity should be offered carrier screening.
2. Testing of previously screened patients should be assessed.
3. DNA sequencing is not appropriate for routine carrier screening.
4. Newborn screening panels do not replace maternal carrier screening.
5. If both partners are carriers, genetic counseling is recommended.
6. If there is a family history of CF, genetic counseling and carrier screening should be offered.
7. If there is a history of infertility in the partner, genetic counseling and carrier screening should be offered.

Since the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology has determined that CF screening is standard of care and should be offered to all patients, I respectfully request that Colorado Medicaid considers covering the HerediT Cystic Fibrosis screening test (CPT code 81220) when reviewed by the Genetic Testing Benefits Collaborative and/or Maternity Benefits Collaborative.

Sincerely,



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