

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 2235-MC-FFS

DATE: June 11, 2021

TO: Independent Laboratories

APPLIES TO: Managed Care (MC), Fee-for-Service (FFS)

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) Certification for Venipuncture-only Lab Claims

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2021

The CLIA certification number is required for all lab claims except for single line claims for venipuncture only. The following procedure codes can be billed without a CLIA certification number on the claim:

36145
36416
36600

All other procedure codes must include the CLIA certification number on the claim in order to be paid as previously communicated via [Informational Letter 1777-MC-FFS](#)¹. As updates are made to the CLIA certificate, including but not limited to address changes, submit the CLIA certification changes to the Managed Care Organizations (MCO).

Laboratory procedures are only reimbursable if rendered by an appropriately licensed or certified laboratory having the appropriate level of CLIA accreditation for the particular test performed. Thus, any claim that does not contain the CLIA ID, has an invalid ID, has a lab accreditation level that does not support the billed service code and/or does not have complete servicing provider demographic information will be considered incomplete and rejected.

Additionally, providers who have obtained a CLIA Waiver or Provider Performed Microscopy Procedure accreditation must include the QW modifier when any CLIA-

¹ <https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/IMPA/Information/ViewDocument.aspx?viewdocument=c3ccce13-e0f5-4c34-b48d-341eadda7c18>

waived laboratory service is reported on a CMS-1500 claim form. This is to have the procedure evaluated to determine eligibility for benefit coverage.

If you have questions, please contact the appropriate MCO or the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909 or by email at imeproviderservcies@dhs.state.ia.us.