



## CLIA Certificate of Provider-performed Microscopy

The Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA) require a facility to be appropriately certified for each test performed. A facility that has a CLIA certificate for provider-performed microscopy (PPM) procedures may only perform tests that are categorized as either PPM procedures or waived tests under CLIA.

The healthcare common procedure coding system (HCPCS) code G0026 (fecal leukocyte examination) was discontinued on December 31, 2002. For calendar year (CY) 2003, HCPCS code 89055 (Leukocyte count, fecal) was suggested as a possible code to be used for the discontinued G0026. However, under CLIA, the fecal leukocyte examination permitted for a PPM procedure certificate does not include a fecal leukocyte count. For CY 2003, Medicare contractors were instructed to permit the use of existing HCPCS code Q0111 (Wet mounts, including preparations of vaginal, cervical or skin specimens) for fecal leukocyte examination claims submitted by facilities with a valid PPM procedure CLIA certificate with dates of services on or after January 1, 2003, in Transmittal AB-03-127 (Change Request 2843).

The wording of the HCPCS code 89055 was revised for CY 2004 to read "Leukocyte assessment, fecal, qualitative or semiquantitative." The revised text meets the CLIA definition of the PPM procedure for the fecal leukocyte examination. This notification gives instructions on how a facility with a CLIA certificate for PPM procedures should submit claims for the fecal leukocyte examination beginning January 1, 2004.

The preamble to the CLIA regulations published on April 24, 1995, (HSQ-216-FC), stated that the fecal leukocyte examination is a form of the wet mount examination and mentioned that this test met the criteria for inclusion in PPM procedures category. The CLIA regulations also require a facility to be appropriately certified for each test performed. To ensure that Medicare and Medicaid only pay for laboratory tests categorized as provider-performed microscopy (PPM) procedures or waived complexity under CLIA in facilities having a valid CLIA certificate for PPM procedures, laboratory claims are currently edited at the CLIA certificate level.

The CLIA Certificate of Provider-performed Microscopy Procedures (PPMP) is required for laboratories performing only provider-performed microscopy procedures, or for provider-performed microscopy procedures in addition to waived tests.

Code	Description
G0026	Fecal leukocyte examination
G0027	Semen analysis; presence and/or motility of sperm excluding Huhner
Q0111	Wet mounts, including preparations of vaginal, cervical or skin specimens
Q0112	All potassium hydroxide (KOH) preparations
Q0113	Pinworm examinations
Q0114	Fern test
Q0115	Post-coital direct, qualitative examinations of vaginal or cervical mucous
81000	Urinalysis, by dip stick or tablet reagent for bilirubin, glucose, hemoglobin, ketones, leukocytes, nitrite, pH, protein, specific gravity, urobilinogen, any number of these constituents; non-automated, with microscopy



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81001	Urinalysis, by dipstick or tablet reagent for bilirubin, glucose, hemoglobin, ketones, leukocytes, nitrite, pH, protein, specific gravity, urobilinogen, any number of these constituents; automated, with microscopy (Note: This may only be used when the lab is using an automated dipstick urinalysis instrument approved as waived.)
81015	Urinalysis; microscopic only
81020	Urinalysis; two or three glass test
89190	Nasal smear for eosinophils
89055	Leukocyte assessment, fecal, qualitative or semiquantitative