

Reimbursement Policy

Policy Number: RPLAB046

Policy Title: Biomarkers for Myocardial Infarction and Chronic Heart Failure

Approval Date: Aug. 6, 2026

Effective Date: Dec. 4, 2026

Policy Disclaimer

If a conflict arises between a Reimbursement Policy and any Plan document under which a member is entitled to covered services, the Plan document will govern. If a conflict arises between a reimbursement policy and any provider contract pursuant to which a provider participates in and/or provides covered services to eligible member(s) and/or plans, the provider's contract will govern. "Plan documents" include, but are not limited to, Certificates of Health Care Benefits, Benefit Booklets, Summary Plan Descriptions and other coverage documents. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois may use reasonable discretion interpreting and applying this policy to services being delivered in a particular case. BCBSIL has full and final discretionary authority for their interpretation and application to the extent provided under any applicable Plan documents.

Providers are responsible for submitting accurate documentation of services performed. Providers are expected to submit claims for services rendered using valid code combinations from Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act approved code sets. Claims should be coded appropriately according to industry standard coding guidelines including, but not limited to: Uniform Billing Editor, American Medical Association, Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) Assistant, Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System, ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS, National Drug Codes, Diagnosis Related Group guidelines, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services National Correct Coding Initiative Policy Manual, CCI table edits and other CMS guidelines.

Claims are subject to the code edit protocols for services and procedures billed. Claim submissions are subject to claim review, including but not limited to, any terms of benefit coverage, provider contract language, medical policies and reimbursement policies, as well as coding software logic. Upon request, the provider is urged to submit any additional documentation.

Description

The plan has implemented certain lab management reimbursement criteria. Not all requirements apply to each product. Providers are urged to review Plan documents for eligible coverage for services rendered.

Reimbursement Information

1. For individuals presenting with signs and symptoms of acute coronary syndrome (see **NOTE 1**), **quantitative** measurement of cardiac troponin (troponin T or I) for the diagnosis of myocardial infarction (MI) (when tested at an outpatient facility capable of performing an adequate clinical MI evaluation) **may be reimbursable** up to four times within the first 72 hours following initial presentation.
2. Measurement of B-type natriuretic peptide (BNP) **or** N-terminal proBNP (NT-proBNP) **may be reimbursable** in **any** of the following situations:
 - a. To diagnose heart failure in individuals presenting with dyspnea;
 - b. To establish disease severity in individuals with chronic heart failure (up to four times per year in the outpatient setting).
3. For individuals presenting with signs and symptoms of acute coronary syndrome (see **NOTE 1**), measurement of the following cardiac biomarkers for the diagnosis and/or prognosis of MI **is not reimbursable**:
 - a. Aspartate aminotransferase (AST/SGOT);
 - b. Cardiac creatine kinase isoenzyme MB (CKMB);
 - c. Creatine kinase (CK);
 - d. Creatine kinase isoenzymes;
 - e. Lactate dehydrogenase (LD, LDH);
 - f. Myoglobin.
4. For individuals presenting with signs and symptoms of acute coronary syndrome (see **NOTE 1**) measurement of cardiac biomarkers in an outpatient setting which is not capable of performing adequate clinical MI evaluation (e.g., independent lab or physician's office) **is not reimbursable**.
5. In the outpatient setting, **qualitative** measurement of cardiac troponin (troponin T or I) **is not reimbursable**.
6. For individuals presenting with signs and symptoms of acute coronary syndrome (see **NOTE 1**), measurement of the following cardiac biomarkers for the diagnosis and/or prognosis of MI **are not reimbursable**:
 - a. Copeptin;
 - b. Troponin C;

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- c. C-reactive protein;
 - d. Heart-type fatty acid binding protein (H-FABP;)
 - e. Any other cardiac biomarkers not listed above.
7. For all situations in the outpatient setting, analysis of ST2 and/or its isoforms (e.g., Presage ST2) **is not reimbursable**.

Note 1:

Acute Coronary Syndrome/Myocardial Infarction Common Signs and Symptoms (3):

- Ischemic chest pain with radiation to an upper extremity, radiation to both arms, and pain associated with diaphoresis or with nausea and vomiting.
- Squeezing, tightness, pressure, constriction, crushing, strangling, burning, heartburn, fullness in the chest, band-like sensation, knot in the center of the chest, lump in throat, ache, heavy weight on chest and toothache (when there is radiation to the lower jaw).
- Ischemic pain often radiates to other parts of the body including the upper abdomen (epigastrium), shoulders, arms (upper and forearm), wrist, fingers, neck and throat, lower jaw and teeth (but not upper jaw), and not infrequently to the back (specifically the interscapular region).
- Shortness of breath, belching, nausea, indigestion, vomiting, diaphoresis, dizziness, lightheadedness, clamminess, and fatigue.

Atypical Signs and Symptoms (3):

Dyspnea alone, weakness, nausea and/or vomiting, epigastric pain or discomfort, palpitations, syncope, or cardiac arrest.

Procedure Codes

The following is not an all-encompassing code list. The inclusion of a code does not guarantee it is a covered service or eligible for reimbursement.

Code	Description
82550	ASSAY OF CK (CPK)
82552	ASSAY OF CPK IN BLOOD
82553	CREATINE MB FRACTION
82554	CREATINE ISOFORMS
82725	ASSAY OF BLOOD FATTY ACIDS
83006	GROWTH STIMULATION GENE 2
83615	LACTATE (LD) (LDH) ENZYME
83625	ASSAY OF LDH ENZYMES
83874	ASSAY OF MYOGLOBIN
83880	ASSAY OF NATRIURETIC PEPTIDE
84450	TRANSFERASE (AST) (SGOT)
84484	ASSAY OF TROPONIN QUANT

84512	ASSAY OF TROPONIN QUAL
84588	ASSAY OF VASOPRESSIN
84999	UNLISTED CHEMISTRY PROCEDURE
86140	C-REACTIVE PROTEIN
86141	C-REACTIVE PROTEIN HS

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Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. (2026). Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Level II.

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Policy History

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