<u> حرائح</u>	HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS C O R P O R A T I O N	Quality Through Compliance	Policy No.: FIN 0523 Revision No.:
_ برائي_	"Touching Lives Everyday"		N/A
	Policies and Procedures	Issued by: Corporate Compliance Committee	Effective Date: September 22, 2000
Subject: Unlisted Laboratory Procedure Codes		Approved by:	Supersedes Policy: N/A
		Thomas M. Driskill, Jr. President & CEO	Page: 1 of 5

- **I. PURPOSE**: To bill for unlisted procedure codes for laboratory services in accordance with Medicare, Medicaid, and other federally funded payor requirements.
- **II. POLICY:** Unlisted procedure codes may only be used to report a laboratory service that is not described in any code listed in the current CPT and/or HCPCS manuals.
- **III. PROCEDURE:** The following steps must be performed to make sure unlisted procedures are billed in accordance with Medicare, Medicaid, and other federally funded payor requirements:

A. Implementation:

- 1. Laboratory personnel must review the chargemaster and identify unlisted laboratory procedures. If such procedures are found, determine if a specific CPT/HCPC code exists for the test performed. If a specific code exists, revise your the chargemaster accordingly. If a specific CPT/HCPC code is not found, determine if a "method code" (see definition below) exists which accurately identifies the procedure. If it is determined there is a "method code," revise the chargemaster accordingly. If it is determined there is no applicable "method code," the appropriate unlisted procedure code may be assigned from the list below. Unlisted procedure codes should only be used as a last resort.
 - 80299 Unlisted quantitation of drug
 - 81099 Unlisted urinalysis procedure
 - 84999 Unlisted chemistry procedure
 - 85999 Unlisted hematology procedure
 - 86849 Unlisted immunology procedure
 - 86999 Unlisted transfusion medicine procedure
 - 87999 Unlisted microbiology procedure
 - 88099 Unlisted necropsy (autopsy) procedure
 - 88199 Unlisted cytopathology procedure
 - 88299 Unlisted cytogenetic study
 - 88399 Unlisted surgical pathology procedure
 - 89399 Unlisted miscellaneous pathology test

- Carefully review the current edition of CPT and HCPC Level II coding books for your locality to ensure a more specific code is not available.
- 2. If the unlisted laboratory test is being referred to another laboratory, laboratory personnel must contact the reference laboratory for the appropriate CPT or HCPC Level II code based on the "method" they are using. Laboratory personnel must make sure that the code is in accordance with coding guidelines.
- 3. Business office personnel must establish edits in the electronic billing system which prevent claims containing unlisted procedures from being submitted to the payor electronically. If the fiscal intermediary requires that the claim be filed electronically with hard copy documentation to follow, edits still must be established in order to review claim prior to submission. Additionally, a process must be developed to ensure required documentation is submitted.
- 4. All staff/physicians responsible for ordering, charging, or billing laboratory services will be educated on the contents of this policy.
- 5. Unlisted codes must be reviewed on an annual basis.
- 6. Establish and implement mechanisms in order for business office personnel to identify intermediary interpretations, which vary from the interpretations in this policy. Specific intermediary documentation related to the variance(s) must be obtained and faxed to the Regional Compliance Officer who would report to the Corporate Compliance Officer.

B. Daily:

- Business office personnel must review electronic billing edit/error reports daily to determine if unlisted procedure codes exist. If unlisted procedure codes are present the claim must be reviewed and submitted according to the intermediary guidelines following the Special Report instructions.
- 2. <u>Special Report</u>: A service that is rarely provided, unusual, variable, or new may require a special report in determining medical appropriateness of the service. Pertinent information must include an adequate definition or description of the nature, extent, and need for the procedure as well as the time, effort, and equipment necessary to provide the service. Additional items which may be included are:
 - Complexity of symptoms;
 - Final diagnosis;
 - Pertinent physical findings;
 - Diagnostic and therapeutic procedures;
 - Concurrent problems; and
 - Follow-up care.
- 3. It is the responsibility of the Chief Financial Officer at each facility to guarantee adherence to this procedure.

C. Example: Ibuprofen, quantitative is ordered by a physician and this test is not set up in the chargemaster. The test is being referred for analysis. The reference lab is called to obtain proper CPT/HCPC code. The reference lab provides you with CPT code 82491 (Chromatography, gas & liquid). This code is appropriate as this is the method code which best describes the procedure and no specific CPT/HCPC code is listed for Ibuprofen, quantitative.

D. Definitions:

Method Codes – Method codes are CPT codes created by the AMA to classify certain types of tests by the method which is used to perform the test. These codes should only be used when the tests billed are performed using the specific method described and no test specific CPT or HCPC code exists. Some of the most common method codes found in the 1999 AMA CPT Manual are listed below:

- 82190 Atomic Absorption spectroscopy, each analyte
- 82397 Chemiluminescent Assay
- 82486 Chromatography, qualitative; column (gas, liquid, HPLC), analyte not elsewhere specified
- 82487 Chromatography, paper, 1-dimensional
- 82488 Chromatography, paper, 2-dimensional
- 82489 Chromatography, thin layer
- 82491 Chromatography, quantitative; column, single, stationary and mobile phase (gas, liquid, HPLC)
- 82491 Chromatography, quantitative, column, multiple, stationary and mobile phase (gas, liquid, HPLC)
- 82541 Column Chromatography/mass spectrometry, qualitative, single stationary and mobile phase
- 82542 Column Chromatography/mass spectrometry, quantitative, single stationary and mobile phase
- 82543 Column Chromatography/mass spectrometry, stable isotope, quantitative, single, stationary and mobile phase
- 82544 Column Chromatography/mass spectrometry, stable isotope, quantitative, multiple, stationary and mobile phase
- 82657 Enzyme activity blood cells, cultured cells or tissue, nonradioactive substrate, each specimen
- 82658 Enzyme activity blood cells, cultured cells or tissue, radioactive substrate, each specimen
- 82664 Electrophoretic technique, not elsewhere specified
- 83516 Immunoassay for analyte other than antibody or infectious agent antigen, qualitative or semiquantitative; multi-step method
- 83518 Immunoassay for analyte other than antibody or infectious agent antigen, qualitative or semiquantitative; single-step method (reagent strip)
- 83519 Immunoassay, analyte, quantitative; by RIA
- 83520 Immunoassay, not otherwise specified
- 83715 Lipoprotein, blood; electrophoretic separation and quantitation
- 83716 Lipoprotein, high resolution fractionation and quantitation of cholesterols (e.g., electrophoresis, nuclear magnetic resonance, ultra centrifugation)

- 83788 Mass Spectrometry and tandem mass spectrometry (MS, MS/MS) qualitative, each specimen
- 83789 Mass Spectrometry and tandem mass spectrometry (MS, MS/MS) quantitative, each specimen
- 83883 Nephelometry, each analyte not elsewhere specified
- 83890 Molecular diagnostics; molecular isolation or extraction
- 83891 Molecular diagnostics; isolation or extraction of highly purified nucleic acid
- 83892 Molecular diagnostics; enzymatic digestion
- 83893 Molecular diagnostics; dot/slot blot production
- 83894 Molecular diagnostics; separation by gel electrophoresis
- 83896 Molecular diagnostics; nucleic acid probe, each
- 83898 Molecular diagnostics; amplification of patient nucleic acid (PCR, LCR, RT-PCR), single primer pair, each primer pair
- 83901 Molecular diagnostics; amplification of patient nucleic acid, multiplex, each multiplex reaction
- 83902 Molecular diagnostics; reverse transcription
- 83903 Molecular Diagnostics, mutation scanning, single segment, each
- 83904 Molecular Diagnostics, mutation identified by sequencing
- 83905 Molecular Diagnostics, mutation identified by allele specific transcription
- 83906 Molecular Diagnostics, mutation identified by allele specific translation
- 84375 Sugars, chromatographic, TLC or paper
- 86171 Complement Fixation tests, each antigen
- 86185 Counterimmunoelectrophoresis, each antigen
- 86255 Fluorescent antibody; screen, each antibody
- 86280 Hemagglutination Inhibition test (HAI)
- 86316 Immunoassay for Tumor Antigen, each
- 86317 Immunoassay for infectious agent antibody, quantitative, nos
- 86318 Immunoassay for infectious agent antibody, qualitative or semi-quantitative, single-step
- 86329 Immunodiffusion; nos
- 86331 Immuno Gel Diffusion, each antibody or antigen
- 86334 Immunofixation electrophoresis
- 86382 Neutralization Test
- 86403 Particle agglutination; screen, each antibody
- 86406 Particle agglutination; titer, each antibody
- 86790 Virus, not elsewhere specified
- 86920 Compatibility test each unit; immediate spin technique
- 86921 Compatibility test each unit; incubation technique
- 86922 Compatibility test each unit; antiglobulin technique
- 87140 Culture, typing, florescent method, each antiserum
- 87143 Culture, typing, gas/liquid chromatography technique
- 87145 Culture, typing, phage method
- 87147 Culture, typing, serological method, agglutination grouping
- 87151 Culture, typing, serological method, speciation
- 87155 Culture, typing, precipitin method
- 87449 Unlisted infectious agent antigen detection by EIA, multi-step, nos
- 87450 Infectious agent antigen detection by EIA, single-step, nos

- 87797 Infectious agent antigen detection by nucleic acid, DNA or RNA, direct probe, nos
- 87798 Infectious agent antigen detection by nucleic acid, DNA or RNA, amplified probe, nos
- 88142 Cytopathology, cervical or vaginal, automated thin layer preparation, manual screen
- 88147 Cytopathology smears, cervical or vaginal, screen by automated system
- 88145 Cytopathology smears, cervical or vaginal, screen by automated system with manual rescreen
- 88164 Cytopathology slides, cervical or vaginal (Bethesda System), manual screen
- 88271 Molecular cytogenetics, DNA probe, FISH
- 88272 Molecular cytogenetics, chromosomal in situ hybridization