



April 11, 2022

Memo To: DLS Clients
From: Wesley J. Kim, M.D., Medical Director
Re: Medicare Coverage Restriction for Combination Orders of Tumor Antigen CA 15-3 (TC 207) and CA 27.29 (TC 4659)

Dear Valued DLS Client,

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) establishes National Coverage Determination (NCD) guidelines that defines the level of coverage deemed reasonable and necessary for certain services offered by participating providers on Medicare insured patients. Your assistance in complying with these NCD guidelines is needed to ensure certain tests are not ordered on the same date of service because they represent test combinations that CMS deems medically unreasonable or mutually exclusive.

NCD Guideline 190.29 states that for breast cancer monitoring, if medically necessary, use consistently either CA 15-3 or CA 27.29. Not both.

Effective April 13, 2022, in an effort to comply with CMS' NCD guidelines and to minimize delays in turn around time for results which could affect patient care, if we encounter the combination of tests ordered above, we will be performing the CA 15-3 and the patient will be presented with an Advanced Beneficiary Notice (ABN) for CA 27.29. If the patient signs the ABN indicating they will pay for CA 27.29 DLS will perform the test. Otherwise your office will be notified of the inability to fulfill your order for the CA 27.29 test. We appreciate your understanding as we work with these guidelines.

For additional questions, please contact DLS Client Services, (808) 589-5101 or Dr. Wesley Kim at (808) 589-5131.

Re: NCD - Tumor Antigen by Immunoassay - CA 15-3/CA 27.29 (190.29) (cms.gov)