



# Technical Bulletin

## Replacement of the Melanoma NGS Profile

**TO:** Medical Staff and Clients

**FROM:** Dr. Christopher Lum, MD, Medical Director  
Molecular Diagnostics, DLS

Dr. Amy Woron, PhD, MPH  
V.P. - Technical Director  
Microbiology & Molecular Labs

Dr. Wesley Kim, MD  
Medical Director DLS  
and QMC West

Dr. Ana Ortega-Lopez, MD  
Medical Director QMC Punchbowl,  
North Hawaii and Molokai

**DATE:** December 16, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Replacement of the NGS Melanoma Profile with NGS Oncology Tumor Profile

Diagnostic Laboratory Services, Inc. (DLS) has replaced the NGS (Next-Generation Sequencing) Melanoma Profile (7207) with the NGS Oncology Tumor Profile (7206) due to advancements in tumor profiling, payer considerations, and evolving standards of care.

During the initial launch of the NGS Melanoma profile in 2021, only limited targets such as BRAF, NRAS, and KIT were FDA-approved and reimbursable. Although the Melanoma Profile is identical to the Tumor Profile, which covers 523 genes to support clinical trial opportunities and compassionate care programs, the Melanoma Profile was created to address the reduction of reimbursement.

Today, markers like NTRK 1/2/3 fusions, tumor mutation burden (TMB), and microsatellite instability (MSI) have gained FDA approval for second-line indications. These markers require comprehensive genomic coverage to determine immunotherapy eligibility, critical for tumor board discussions and advanced treatment options. Basket trials such as ComboMATCH now guide therapies by driver mutations rather than cancer type, further necessitating broad-panel testing. Limiting the panel to FDA-approved genes alone would restrict clinical trial discussions and fail to meet modern standards of care.

To submit your melanoma case for profiling, please order NGS Oncology Tumor Profile (7206)

Order Code	Test Name	Specimen Requirement	CPT
7206	NGS Oncology Tumor Profile	Formalin-Fixed Paraffin Embedded Tissue (FFPE) block	81479 or 81455

Please refer any questions to Jason Pon, Manager - DLS Molecular Laboratories at 808-441-5469 or DLS Client Services at 589-5101.