

18-01 Lab Services Policy Comments

DATE	FROM	COMMENT
8/23/2018	Chris	Does this mean OHCA will be deleting their policies to have lead levels performed at certain age related physicals, as well as the normal recommended routine labs. And what about Headstart program requirement to have a lead level, A1C, glucose. As those test do not change the plan of care unless there is positive finding that you wouldn't know about at the time of the order. If so are to direct them to the health department to perform these tests?
8/24/2018	Peter Sinton, M.D. FAAP	I am a general pediatrician practicing in rural Kay county. I need to be able to order screening tests without worrying about whether these services are covered. Many of my patients do not outwardly look ill, but they have significant disease processes going on internally that can only be brought to light with screening lab work during a physical exam visit. We already have an unrealistic and unreasonable PA process for most drugs and tests that are already medically indicated. Now I have to stress about ordering a CBC, lipid panel, or other basic screening tests. Now I'm worried that when someone has a sore throat and I perform the medically indicated strep screen and culture that it won't be reimbursed because they were negative. This policy is vague and punitive to

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		primary care physicians. Punishing the physicians to get us to order fewer tests is not the way to cut costs. Hospitals overcharge for everything. We cost 1/10th of what the hospital charges sometimes. Preventative screening is cost effective because it catches expensive medical conditions and diseases before they get worse and require hospitalization or specialized care. We are well trained to know when a test is medically indicated. Trust your physicians.
9/6/2018	Chris	I don't think you will save any monies, but instead drugs, more like antibiotics will increase dramatically. As a provider I would let the patient know Medicaid doesn't cover these routine labs, but they are recommended. You leaving a provider hanging out to dry without them have to do this.
9/12/2018	Chris Pollak	Children's medicine and adult medicine is very different. With routine labs we have found fatty livers, anemia, and I am not a nurse or physician they could tell you how much more the find with routine labs.
9/14/2018	Dr. Walker	The providers ask me to inquire as to the antibiotic drug problem. This is going to increase antibiotic if you are going to make provider guess at whats going on. a 6 month or 1 year old is not going to be able to let you know their syptoms. Already children are being put unnecessarily on antibiotic

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		use. We agree some provider do order unnecessary labs, but instead of hurting everyone, how about looking at those providers. are being put unnecessarily on antibiotic use. We agree some provider do order unnecessary labs, but instead of hurting everyone, how about looking at those providers.