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Lines Of Business All Lines of Business
Area Medical Policy

Vitamin B-12 Testing

PURPOSE:

This policy is designed to discuss medical necessity criteria for Vitamin B-12 testing.

DEFINITIONS:

Vitamin B-12: Vitamin B-12 (cobalamin) plays an essential role in red blood cell formation, cell metabolism, nerve function and the production of DNA, the molecules inside cells that carry genetic information.

PROCEDURE:

1. Vitamin B12 testing is considered not medically necessary, and therefore non-covered, in either of the following:
 1. Screening individuals with no risk factors for vitamin B12 deficiency
 2. Testing asymptomatic individuals for vitamin B12 deficiency (routine or serial testing)
2. Testing may be considered medically necessary for individuals with any of the following indications:
 1. Vitamin B12 Testing
 - a. Screening in individuals with one or more risk factors
 - b. If signs or symptoms of vitamin B12 deficiency are present
 2. Methylmalonic Acid Testing
 - a. Testing to establish or confirm functional B12 deficiency

3. Homocysteine Testing

- a. Testing of individuals with conditions associated with elevated homocysteine levels
- b. Assessment of borderline vitamin B12 deficiency or inadequate response to Vitamin B12 treatment in suspected vitamin B12 deficiency.
- c. Central retinal vein occlusion with a history of previous thrombosis, or family history of thrombosis if under the age of 56 years and does not have strong evidence of arteriosclerotic risk factors.
- d. Assessment of idiopathic venous thrombo-embolism, recurrent venous thrombo-embolism, thrombosis occurring at a young age (i.e., less than 45 years of age), or thrombosis at an unusual site.
- e. Assessment of homocystinuria caused by cystathionine beta synthase deficiency.

Risk Factors for vitamin B12 deficiency:

- Decreased ileal absorption
- Pancreatic steatorrhea
- Crohn disease/ inflammatory bowel disease
- Tapeworm infection
- Pernicious anemia
- Decreased intrinsic factor
- Atrophic gastritis
- Genetic:
 - Transcobalamin II deficiency
- Inadequate intake/nutrition
- Vegans or strict vegetarians (including exclusively breastfed infants of vegetarian/vegan mothers)
- Alcohol abuse
- Patients older than 75 years
- Prolonged medication use of:
 - Histamine H₂ blocker use for more than 12 months
 - Metformin use for more than four months

- Proton pump inhibitor use for more than 12 months
- Inherited metabolic disorders
- Gastric or small intestine/ Ileal resection
- Postgastrectomy syndrome (includes Roux-en-Y gastric bypass)

Signs and symptoms of Vitamin B12 deficiency:

- Cutaneous
 - Hyperpigmentation
 - Jaundice
 - Vitiligo
- Gastrointestinal
 - Glossitis
- Hematologic
 - Anemia (macrocytic, megaloblastic)
 - Leukopenia
 - Pancytopenia
 - Thrombocytopenia
 - Thrombocytosis
- Neuropsychiatric
 - Areflexia
 - Cognitive impairment (including dementia-like symptoms and acute psychosis)
 - Gait abnormalities
 - Irritability
 - Loss of proprioception and vibratory sense
 - Olfactory impairment
 - Peripheral neuropathy

Note: The Health Plan complies with all Medicare National Coverage Determinations (NCDs) and applicable Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) for all therapies, items, services, and/or procedures that are covered benefits under Medicare. If the coverage criteria in this policy conflicts with any NCDs or relevant LCD, the relevant document controls the application of services regardless of the version of the NCD or LCD listed in the reference section.

CODING:

Procedure Codes:

| CPT Code | Description |
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| 82607 | Cyanocobalamin (Vitamin B-12) |
| 83090 | Homocysteine |
| 83921 | Organic Acid, single, quantitative (Methylmalonic acid) |

Non-covered Diagnosis Codes:

| CD-10 Code | Description |
|------------|---|
| Z00.00 | Encounter for general adult medical examination without abnormal findings |
| Z00.129 | Encounter for routine child health examination without abnormal findings |
| Z00.3 | Encounter for examination for adolescent development state |
| Z00.8 | Encounter for other general examination |

Covered Diagnosis Codes:

| ICD-10 Code | Description |
|-------------|---|
| D51.0 | Vitamin B12 deficiency anemia due to intrinsic factor deficiency |
| D51.1 | Vitamin B12 deficiency anemia due to selective vitamin B12 malabsorption with proteinuria |
| D51.2 | Transcobalamin II deficiency |
| D51.3 | Other dietary vitamin B12 deficiency anemia |
| D51.8 | Other vitamin B12 deficiency anemias |
| D51.9 | Vitamin B12 deficiency anemia, unspecified |
| D52.0 | Dietary folate deficiency anemia |
| D52.1 | Drug-induced folate deficiency anemia |
| D52.8 | Other folate deficiency anemias |
| D52.9 | Folate deficiency anemia, unspecified |
| D53.1 | Other megaloblastic anemias, not elsewhere classified |
| D53.9 | Nutritional anemia, unspecified |
| D69.6 | Thrombocytopenia, unspecified |
| D70.0 | Congenital agranulocytosis |
| D70.1 | Agranulocytosis secondary to cancer chemotherapy |

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| D70.2 | Other drug-induced agranulocytosis |
| D70.3 | Neutropenia due to infection |
| D70.4 | Cyclic neutropenia |
| D70.8 | Other neutropenia |
| D70.9 | Neutropenia, unspecified |
| D71 | Functional disorders of polymorphonuclear neutrophils |
| D72.0 | Genetic anomalies of leukocytes |
| D72.10 | Eosinophilia, unspecified |
| D72.110 | Idiopathic hypereosinophilic syndrome [IHES] |
| D72.118 | Other hypereosinophilic syndrome |
| D72.119 | Hypereosinophilic syndrome [HES], unspecified |
| D72.12 | Drug rash with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms syndrome |
| D72.18 | Eosinophilia in diseases classified elsewhere |
| D72.19 | Other eosinophilia |
| D72.810 | Lymphocytopenia |
| D72.818 | Other decreased white blood cell count |
| D72.819 | Decreased white blood cell count, unspecified |
| D76.1 | Hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis |
| D76.2 | Hemophagocytic syndrome, infection-associated |
| D76.3 | Other histiocytosis syndromes |
| D81.818 | Other biotin-dependent carboxylase deficiency |
| D81.819 | Biotin-dependent carboxylase deficiency, unspecified |
| E41 | Nutritional marasmus |
| E43 | Unspecified severe protein-calorie malnutrition |
| E44.0 | Moderate protein-calorie malnutrition |
| E45 | Retarded development following protein-calorie malnutrition |
| E46 | Unspecified protein-calorie malnutrition |
| E53.8 | Deficiency of other specified B group vitamins |
| E64.0 | Sequelae of protein-calorie malnutrition |
| E72.10 | Disorders of sulfur-bearing amino-acid metabolism, unspecified |
| E72.11 | Homocystinuria |
| E72.12 | Methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase deficiency |

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| E72.19 | Other disorders of sulfur-bearing amino-acid metabolism |
| F03.90 | Unspecified dementia without behavioral disturbance |
| F10.11 | Alcohol abuse, in remission |
| F10.130 | Alcohol abuse with withdrawal, uncomplicated |
| F10.131 | Alcohol abuse with withdrawal delirium |
| F10.132 | Alcohol abuse with withdrawal with perceptual disturbance |
| F10.139 | Alcohol abuse with withdrawal, unspecified |
| F10.20 | Alcohol dependence, uncomplicated |
| G25.70 | Drug induced movement disorder, unspecified |
| G25.71 | Drug induced akathisia |
| G25.79 | Other drug induced movement disorders |
| G25.89 | Other specified extrapyramidal and movement disorders |
| G25.9 | Extrapyramidal and movement disorder, unspecified |
| G26 | Extrapyramidal and movement disorders in diseases classified elsewhere |
| G30.0 | Alzheimer's disease with early onset |
| G30.1 | Alzheimer's disease with late onset |
| G30.8 | Other Alzheimer's disease |
| G30.9 | Alzheimer's disease, unspecified |
| G60.3 | Idiopathic progressive neuropathy |
| G60.9 | Hereditary and idiopathic neuropathy, unspecified |
| K14.0 | Glossitis |
| K14.6 | Glossodynia |
| K31.83 | Achlorhydria |
| K50.00 | Crohn's disease of small intestine without complications |
| K50.011 | Crohn's disease of small intestine with rectal bleeding |
| K50.012 | Crohn's disease of small intestine with intestinal obstruction |
| K50.013 | Crohn's disease of small intestine with fistula |
| K50.014 | Crohn's disease of small intestine with abscess |
| K50.018 | Crohn's disease of small intestine with other complication |
| K50.019 | Crohn's disease of small intestine with unspecified complications |
| K50.10 | Crohn's disease of large intestine without complications |
| K50.111 | Crohn's disease of large intestine with rectal bleeding |

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| K50.112 | Crohn's disease of large intestine with intestinal obstruction |
| K50.113 | Crohn's disease of large intestine with fistula |
| K50.114 | Crohn's disease of large intestine with abscess |
| K50.118 | Crohn's disease of large intestine with other complication |
| K50.119 | Crohn's disease of large intestine with unspecified complications |
| K50.80 | Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine without complications |
| K50.811 | Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with rectal bleeding |
| K50.812 | Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with intestinal obstruction |
| K50.813 | Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with fistula |
| K50.814 | Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with abscess |
| K50.818 | Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with other complication |
| K50.819 | Crohn's disease of both small and large intestine with unspecified complications |
| K50.90 | Crohn's disease, unspecified, without complications |
| K50.911 | Crohn's disease, unspecified, with rectal bleeding |
| K50.912 | Crohn's disease, unspecified, with intestinal obstruction |
| K50.913 | Crohn's disease, unspecified, with fistula |
| K50.914 | Crohn's disease, unspecified, with abscess |
| K50.918 | Crohn's disease, unspecified, with other complication |
| K50.919 | Crohn's disease, unspecified, with unspecified complications |
| K52.21 | Food protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome |
| K52.22 | Food protein-induced enteropathy |
| K52.29 | Other allergic and dietetic gastroenteritis and colitis |
| K52.3 | Indeterminate colitis |
| K52.831 | Collagenous colitis |
| K52.832 | Lymphocytic colitis |
| K58.1 | Irritable bowel syndrome with constipation |
| K58.2 | Mixed irritable bowel syndrome |
| K90.0 | Celiac disease |
| K90.1 | Tropical sprue |
| K90.2 | Blind loop syndrome, not elsewhere classified |
| K90.3 | Pancreatic steatorrhea |
| K90.81 | Whipple's disease |

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| K90.89 | Other intestinal malabsorption |
| K90.9 | Intestinal malabsorption, unspecified |
| K91.1 | Postgastric surgery syndromes |
| K91.2 | Postsurgical malabsorption, not elsewhere classified |
| K91.30 | Post-procedural intestinal obstruction, unspecified as to partial versus complete |
| K91.31 | Post-procedural partial intestinal obstruction |
| K91.32 | Post-procedural complete intestinal obstruction |
| K91.81 | Other intraoperative complications of digestive system |
| R20.0 | Anesthesia of skin |
| R20.1 | Hypoesthesia of skin |
| R20.2 | Paresthesia of skin |
| R20.3 | Hyperesthesia |
| R20.8 | Other disturbances of skin sensation |
| R20.9 | Unspecified disturbances of skin sensation |
| R26.0 | Ataxic gait |
| R26.1 | Paralytic gait |
| R26.81 | Unsteadiness on feet |
| R26.89 | Other abnormalities of gait and mobility |
| R26.9 | Unspecified abnormalities of gait and mobility |
| R27.0 | Ataxia, unspecified |
| R27.8 | Other lack of coordination |
| R27.9 | Unspecified lack of coordination |
| R41.1 | Anterograde amnesia |
| R41.2 | Retrograde amnesia |
| R41.3 | Other amnesia |
| R41.9 | Unspecified symptoms and signs involving cognitive functions and awareness |
| R45.84 | Anhedonia |
| R68.89 | Other general symptoms and signs |
| Z51.11 | Encounter for antineoplastic chemotherapy |
| Z79.3 | Long term (current) use of hormonal contraceptives |
| Z79.891 | Long term (current) use of opiate analgesic |
| Z79.899 | Other long term (current) drug therapy |

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| Z86.2 | Personal history of diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism |
| Z86.31 | Personal history of diabetic foot ulcer |
| Z86.32 | Personal history of gestational diabetes |
| Z86.39 | Personal history of other endocrine, nutritional and metabolic disease |
| Z98.0 | Intestinal bypass and anastomosis status |
| Z99.2 | Dependence on renal dialysis |

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POST-PAYMENT AUDIT STATEMENT:

The medical record must include documentation that reflects the medical necessity criteria and is subject to audit by THP at any time pursuant to the terms of your provider agreement.

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All Revision Dates

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