



*In alliance with  
The University of Vermont*

May 4, 2012

Attention: Naturopathic Physicians and Doctors of Chiropractic ordering diagnostic laboratory testing

Dear Ordering Clinician,

As a reference laboratory for our community healthcare providers, we strive to provide relevant cost information to our shared patients at the time of service. If you are ordering laboratory testing on patients with Medicare as their primary or secondary healthcare plan, please be aware that Medicare excludes payment for laboratory testing ordered by Naturopathic and Chiropractic doctors. Please review the information below carefully so that you can inform your patients about possible financial liability for testing.

Medicare will reimburse claims from providers and suppliers who furnished, ordered or referred services to Medicare beneficiaries ONLY when the ordering/referring provider identified in those claims is enrolled in the Medicare program and is of an eligible discipline as listed below:

- Doctor of Medicine, Osteopathy, Dental Medicine, Podiatric Medicine or Optometry;
- Physician Assistant
- Certified Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Certified Nurse Midwife
- Clinical Psychologist
- Clinical Social Worker
- Nurse Practitioner

Please see page 2 of the enclosed CMS Fact Sheet on Ordering and Referring Providers. Given these CMS limitations, our laboratory will not be reimbursed by Medicare for laboratory services ordered by Naturopathic or Chiropractic doctors.

Based on these guidelines, please inform your Medicare patients that lab testing will not be covered in this circumstance and that the financial liability will be transferred to the patient and or their secondary insurance.

You may wish to issue an Advance Beneficiary Notice of Non-coverage (ABN) as a courtesy to Medicare patients. Please see the attached form as an example of the ABN form. Contact Lab Customer Service 847-5121 to request additional ABN forms.

If you have questions concerning this notification please contact Lynn Bryan at 847-9540.

Thank you,

Jennifer Parks  
Chief Compliance Officer  
Fletcher Allen Health Care