

Current Effective Date: 5/1/25

Status: Approved

Reviewed by Medical Policy Subcommittee: 5/1/25

Reviewed Dates: 3/20/25

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE DISCLAIMER:

SummaCare posts policies relating to coverage and medical necessity issues to assist members and providers in administering member benefits. These policies do not constitute a contract or agreement between SummaCare and any member or provider. The policies are guidelines only and are intended to assist members and providers with coverage issues. SummaCare is not a health care provider, does not provide or assist with health care services or treatment, and does not make guarantees as to the effectiveness of treatment administered by providers. The treatment of members is the sole responsibility of the treating provider, who is not an employee of SummaCare, but is an independent contractor in private practice. The policies posted to this site may be updated and are subject to change without prior notice to members or providers.

Medical policies in conjunction with other nationally recognized standards of care are used to make medical coverage decisions.

NASHnex Policy

Indication/Usage:

NASHnext is a blood test that reflects both NASH activity and fibrosis in a single score by combining the results of 4 individual NASH-associated biomarkers (serum alpha2-macroglobulin, serum CH13L1/YKL40, serum miR34a, and whole-blood HbA1c). This test is for predicting likelihood of at-risk NASH. There is insufficient evidence to support the use of NASHnext for diagnosis of non-alcoholic steatohepatitis and liver fibrosis. Proprietary Laboratory Analyses (PLA) codes describe proprietary analyses licensed by 1 or multiple labs that may provide the analysis. They are meant to represent specific laboratory tests developed by a proprietary lab. When PLA codes are released there is inadequate

information clearly demonstrating that clinical validity or a definitive positive impact on clinical outcomes have been established.

Medical Indications for Authorization Commercial and Medicare Members

SummaCare considers the following laboratory test experimental, investigational, or unproven because the effectiveness of these approaches has not been established.

CPT Code

0468U Hepatology (nonalcoholic steatohepatitis [NASH]), miR-34a-5p, alpha 2-macroglobulin, YKL40, HbA1c, serum and whole blood, algorithm reported as a single score for NASH activity and fibrosis

There are currently no NCD or LCD for per CMS

Limitations

There is limited information for the CPT code listed in this policy and are considered experimental, investigational, or unproven.

Coverage Decisions

Coverage decisions made per CMS, Hayes and industry standards research

Plans Covered By This Policy

Commercial and Medicare

Considered experimental and investigational for all lines of business

Sources Reviewed

CPT® Code 0468U - Proprietary Laboratory Analyses - Codify by AAPC

CPT® PLA Codes | American Medical Association

CMS MCD Search

Hayes Knowledge Center | symplr