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Status: Approved

Reviewed by Medical Policy Subcommittee: 5/1/25

Reviewed Dates: 3/19/25

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.

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) testing Policy**Indication/Usage:**

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a family of thousands of manufactured, synthetic chemicals made up of a partially or fully fluorinated carbon chain, PFAS have been used widely in industry and consumer products for decades. PFAS are extensively found in the environment and it and are referred to as "forever chemicals". Humans are exposed through food and water with varying levels. Nearly all individuals have measurable amounts of PFAS in their blood in the US. Some PFAS build up and persist in the human body and environment, while others transform relatively quickly. Blood levels of substitute PFAS are not well studied and there are no approved medical treatments available to remove PFAS from the body.

Medical Indications for Authorization Commercial and Medicare Members

SummaCare considers blood, and urine laboratory testing for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) experimental, investigational, or unproven because the effectiveness has not been established.

There are currently no NCD or LCD for per CMS

CPT Codes

0394U: Perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) (e.g., perfluorooctanoic acid, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid), 16 PFAS compounds by liquid chromatography with tandem mass spectrometry (LC-hyphenMS/MS), plasma or serum, quantitative

0457U: Perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) (e.g., perfluorooctanoic acid, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid), 9 PFAS compounds by LC MS/MS, plasma or serum, quantitative

Limitations

PFAS toxicology testing is considered experimental, investigational, or unproven for clinical evaluation and management of PFAS exposure because the effectiveness of this approach has not been established.

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

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) and Your Health. Atlanta, GA: ATSDR; January 18, 2024.
<https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/resources/index.html>

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). Toxicological Profile for Perfluoroalkyls. Atlanta, GA: ATSDR; May 2021. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK592143/>

United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Our Current Understanding of the Human Health and Environmental Risks of PFAS. Washington (DC): EPA; May 16, 2024.
<https://www.epa.gov/pfas/our-current-understanding-human-health-and-environmental-risks-pfas>

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine; Health and Medicine Division; Division on Earth and Life Studies; Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice; Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology; Committee on the Guidance on PFAS Testing and Health Outcomes. Guidance on PFAS Exposure, Testing, and Clinical Follow-Up. Washington (DC): National Academies Press (US); July 28, 2022

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