


Network Provider Update

To: Medi-Cal and Cal MediConnect* network participants

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Subject: **All Plan Letter 22-010: Cancer Biomarker Testing**

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) recently issued [All Plan Letter \(APL\) 22-010](#), "Cancer Biomarker Testing." We are sharing a summary of this APL with you to ensure you are aware of the information, and you can apply the information to your practice or facility operations, where appropriate.

In alignment with SB 535, APL 22-010 requires managed care health plans (MCPs) to cover medically necessary cancer biomarker testing for patients with advanced or metastatic stage 3 or 4 cancer and prohibits requiring prior authorization for these tests.

Key information

- MCPs are prohibited from imposing prior authorization requirements on biomarker testing that is associated with a federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved therapy for advanced or metastatic stage 3 or 4 cancer.
- If the biomarker test is not associated with an FDA-approved cancer therapy for advanced or metastatic stage 3 or 4 cancer, MCPs may still require prior authorization for such testing.

This summary is only meant as a brief description of the APL. Please see the APL itself for additional background and the complete requirements. The full text of APL 22-010 may be found at this URL: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/Documents/MMCDAPLsandPolicyLetters/APL2022/APL22-010.pdf> (Links to the DHCS.ca.gov website will take you off of the Blue Shield Promise website.)

Please direct questions about serving Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan members to our Provider Services Department at (800) 468-9935 from 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

*Cal MediConnect network participants are responsible for identifying and applying the guidance and requirements that pertain to their patients.