Medical Policy

Measurement of Lipoprotein-Associated Phospholipase A2 - Lp-PLA2 - in the Assessment of Cardiovascular Risk

Table of Contents

- Policy: Commercial
- Policy: Medicare
- Authorization Information
- Coding Information
- Description
- Policy History
- Information Pertaining to All Policies
- References

Policy Number: 558
BCBSA Reference Number: 2.04.32

Related Policies

- Novel Lipid Risk Factors in Risk Assessment and Management of Cardiovascular Disease, #283
- Genetic Testing for Lipoprotein(a) Variants(s) as a Decision Aid for Aspirin Treatment, #339
- Gene Expression Testing to Predict Coronary Artery Disease, #349
- Genotyping for 9p21 Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms to Predict Risk of Cardiovascular Disease or Aneurysm, #340
- Homocysteine Testing in the Screening, Diagnosis, and Management of Cardiovascular Disease, #016
- KIF6 Genotyping for Predicting Cardiovascular Risk and or Effectiveness of Statin Therapy, #129

Policy

Commercial Members: Managed Care (HMO and POS), PPO, and Indemnity Medicare HMO BlueSM and Medicare PPO BlueSM Members

Measurement of lipoprotein-associated phospholipase A2 (Lp-PLA2) is INVESTIGATIONAL.

Prior Authorization Information

Commercial Members: Managed Care (HMO and POS)
This is NOT a covered service.

Commercial Members: PPO, and Indemnity
This is NOT a covered service.

Medicare Members: HMO BlueSM
This is NOT a covered service.

Medicare Members: PPO BlueSM
This is NOT a covered service.
CPT Codes / HCPCS Codes / ICD-9 Codes

The following codes are included below for informational purposes. Inclusion or exclusion of a code does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement. Please refer to the member’s contract benefits in effect at the time of service to determine coverage or non-coverage as it applies to an individual member.

Providers should report all services using the most up-to-date industry-standard procedure, revenue, and diagnosis codes, including modifiers where applicable.

## CPT Codes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CPT codes</th>
<th>Code Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>83698</td>
<td>Lipoprotein-associated phospholipase A2 (Lp-PLA2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## ICD-9 Diagnosis Codes

Investigational for all diagnoses.

### Description

Atherosclerosis represents, in part, an inflammatory process that has gained considerable interest in measurement of proinflammatory factors as part of cardiovascular disease risk assessment. Lipoprotein-associated phospholipase A2 (Lp-PLA2) (also known as platelet-activating factor acetylhydrolase) is an enzyme that hydrolyzes phospholipids and is primarily associated with low-density lipoproteins.

Accumulating evidence has suggested that Lp-PLA2 is a biomarker of coronary artery disease and may have a proinflammatory role in the progression of atherosclerosis.

Low-density lipoproteins have been identified as the major atherogenic lipoproteins and have long been identified by the National Cholesterol Education Project as the primary target of cholesterol-lowering therapy.

Examples of tests that measure Lp-PLA2 biomarkers to assess cardiovascular risk include the PLAC® Test from diaDexus, Inc. All tests that measure Lp-PLA2 levels are considered investigational regardless of the commercial name, the manufacturer or FDA approval status.

### Summary

Risk prediction studies corroborate previous research demonstrating that Lp-PLA2 is an independent predictor of cardiovascular disease but do not demonstrate that health outcomes are improved as a result of measuring Lp-PLA2. Thus, this is considered investigational.

### Policy History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/2014</td>
<td>New references added from BCBSA National medical policy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/2013</td>
<td>New references from BCBSA National medical policy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/20/2010</td>
<td>New policy, effective 10/20/2010 describing ongoing non-coverage.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Information Pertaining to All Blue Cross Blue Shield Medical Policies

Click on any of the following terms to access the relevant information:

- Medical Policy Terms of Use
- Managed Care Guidelines
- Indemnity/PPO Guidelines
- Clinical Exception Process
- Medical Technology Assessment Guidelines
References


