

Hematology and Oncology Consultants  
2501 North Orange Aye, Suite 381  
Orlando, Florida 32804  
407-898-5452

February 21, 2006

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
Office of Clinical Standards and Quality  
Coverage and Analysis Group  
Attn: Public Comments, S3-02-01  
7500 Security Boulevard  
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

Regarding procedure code 85610  
Diagnosis 289.81, Primary Hypercoagulable state

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for allowing me to request an additional diagnosis code, 289.81; to be added to procedure code 85610 Laboratory National Coverage Determination (NCD).

Primary Hypercoagulable state, 289.81 is a new diagnosis code in the ICD.9CM for 2005 and 2006. The NCD for 85610, Prothrombin time hasn't been updated with this new diagnosis code. It is medically necessary to perform a Prothrombin time in patient's with a diagnosis of Hypercoagulable state. These patients are being monitored or treated with anticoagulation prescriptions such as, Coumadin. Before initializing treatment, it is important to obtain coagulation studies such as yet not limited to, PT with INR, PTT, Protein C and S levels, Antithrombin III, Factor V Leiden, etc.

Please update your 85610 NCD to include 289.81 for payment.

At the present time, Medicare of Florida is denying payment for 85610 with a diagnosis of 289.81.

Sincerely,  
Debbie Beedlow, CMC