



**Louisiana Department of Health
Health Plan Advisory 20-23
November 20, 2020**

**ESRD Facilities and Independent Laboratory:
Non-Routine Laboratory Services**

Louisiana Medicaid reimburses end-stage renal disease (ESRD) providers for both routine and covered medically necessary non-routine laboratory services. ESRD providers may contract with outside laboratories to perform these lab procedures. Routine lab work is an integral part of outpatient hemodialysis services and reimbursement for routine lab services is included in the dialysis reimbursement rate.

Effective with date of service October 20, 2020, covered medically necessary non-routine laboratory services performed by approved Medicaid laboratories can be billed separately by either the contracted laboratory or by the dialysis facility. The ESRD facility and their contracted laboratory must coordinate billing to ensure duplicate payments do not occur.

If a claim for non-routine laboratory services is submitted by the dialysis provider, they shall not charge Medicaid for an amount that exceeds the amount paid to the contracted laboratory.

Managed care organizations (MCO) shall update their systems accordingly to accommodate these changes. All MCOs shall have completed their system updates along with any provider publications no later than 60 days from the date of this advisory.

Providers may submit new claims or resubmit any improperly denied claims for dates of service on or after October 20, 2020.

If you have any questions regarding this mandate, please contact Helen Carter at Helen.Carter@la.gov.