



Genetic Testing Guidelines

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Purpose:

To provide Genetic Testing guidelines for the Medical Department staff to reference when making benefit determinations.

Coverage Guidelines

1.0 AvMed uses *DNAdirect* developed guidelines to help with determinations regarding whether a particular genetic test is medically necessary.

To help develop guidelines, *DNAdirect* uses:

- Peer-reviewed journal articles
- Professional position statements/guidelines
- Government-sponsored materials (NIH, FDA, MedlinePlus, etc.)
- Textbooks
- Professionally accepted databases. Sources will often be university affiliated. Examples include:
 - GeneReviews
 - OMIM
 - drug-interactions.com (David Flockhart's tables)
 - pharmgkb.org

2.0 Guidelines are reviewed and updated at least annually and more frequently, if needed, when seminal research becomes available.

Disclaimer Information:

Coverage Issues Guidelines and Medical Technology Assessment Recommendations are developed to determine coverage for AvMed's benefits, and are published to provide a better understanding of the basis upon which coverage decisions are made. AvMed makes coverage decisions using these guidelines, along with the Member's benefit document. The use of this guideline is neither a guarantee of payment nor a final prediction of how specific claim(s) will be adjudicated.

Coverage Issues Guidelines and Medical Technology Assessment Recommendations are developed for selected therapeutic or diagnostic services found to be safe, but proven effective in a limited, defined population of patients or clinical circumstances. They include concise clinical coverage criteria based on current literature review, consultation with practicing physicians in the AvMed service area who are medical experts in the particular field, FDA and other government agency policies, and standards adopted by national accreditation organizations.

Treating providers are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of Members. This guideline may be updated and therefore is subject to change.