**GUIDELINES**
This policy does not certify benefits or authorization of benefits, which is designated by each individual policyholder contract. Paramount applies coding edits to all medical claims through coding logic software to evaluate the accuracy and adherence to accepted national standards. This guideline is solely for explaining correct procedure reporting and does not imply coverage and reimbursement.

**DESCRIPTION**
Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a small, double-stranded DNA virus that infects epithelial cells and can induce a variety of benign and malignant tumors in humans. Most HPV infections resolve spontaneously, but if an oncogenic (high-risk) HPV persists, there may be progression to a high-grade preinvasive cervical lesion (cervical intraepithelial neoplasia) or cervical cancer. Testing cervical specimens for DNA of oncogenic types of HPV is useful in the evaluation of certain abnormal PAP smears.

HPV testing for virus types HPV 16 and HPV 18 has been proposed as a replacement for, or supplement to, regularly scheduled cytological testing for assessment of risk for cervical cancer. The goal of HPV testing is to improve accuracy in identifying those women at increased risk for cervical cancer and to decrease unnecessary referrals for colposcopic evaluation.

Several HPV test kits have received premarket approval through the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) including Digene® HPV test (Qiagen Inc., Valencia, CA), Cervista™ HPV HR (Hologic, Bedford, MA), and Cobas® HPV test (Roche, Basel, Switzerland). The tests are only approved by the FDA for follow-up testing of women who have abnormal Pap test results and for cervical cancer screening in combination with a Pap test among women over age 30.

**POLICY**

**HPV screening (87623, 87624, 87625) for women aged 30 years and older does not require prior authorization for HMO, PPO, Individual Marketplace, & Advantage.**

**HPV screening (G0476) for women aged 30 years and older does not require prior authorization for Elite.**

**HMO, PPO, Individual Marketplace, Advantage**
HPV testing (87623, 87624, 87625), in conjunction with Pap smears, meets the definition of medical necessity for the purpose of screening women aged 30 years and older for cervical abnormalities.

HPV testing meets the definition of medical necessity for the purpose of following-up prior positive HPV tests in women aged 30 years and older.

HPV testing of Pap smears that have an interpretation of atypical cells of undetermined significance (ASCUS) meets the definition of medical necessity for women of any age that are high-risk, symptomatic, or have a prior abnormal Pap smear. Risk factors may include HIV infection, a compromised immune system, in utero exposure to diethylstilbestrol (DES), and previous treatment of a high-grade precancerous lesion or cervical cancer.

Paramount considers HPV testing experimental and investigational for the following indications:
- Use as a primary screening test for cervical cancer in women younger than 30 years of age
- For selecting candidates for cervical cancer vaccine
- Testing for low-risk HPV strains
- Testing of men
- Use for indications other than detection of cervical cancer, such as testing for infection following exposure to HPV
- For use in girls and women less than 21 years of age
- Use for all indications other than those listed above

**Elite**
Human Papillomavirus (HPV) testing (G0476) is considered medically necessary once every five years for asymptomatic members aged 30 to 65 years in conjunction with the Pap smear test.
Use either of the following:
- Encounter for screening for HPV – Z11.51 and Encounter for gynecological exam (general) (routine) with abnormal findings – Z01.411
- Encounter for gynecological exam (general) (routine) without abnormal findings – Z01.419

CODING/BILLING INFORMATION
The appearance of a code in this section does not necessarily indicate coverage. Codes that are covered may have selection criteria that must be met. Payment for supplies may be included in payment for other services rendered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CPT CODE</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>87623</td>
<td>Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); Human Papillomavirus (HPV), low-risk types (e.g., 6, 11, 42, 43, 44)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87624</td>
<td>Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); Human Papillomavirus (HPV), high-risk types (e.g., 16, 18, 31, 33, 35, 39, 45, 51, 52, 56, 58, 59, 68)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87625</td>
<td>Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); Human Papillomavirus (HPV), types 16 and 18 only, includes type 45, if performed</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HCPCS CODE</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G0476</td>
<td>Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); Human Papillomavirus (HPV), high-risk types (e.g., 16, 18, 31, 33, 35, 39, 45, 51, 52, 56, 58, 59, 68) for cervical cancer screening, must be performed in addition to pap test</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICD-10 CODES</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Z11.51</td>
<td>Encounter for screening for human papillomavirus (HPV)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z01.411</td>
<td>Encounter for gynecological examination (general) (routine) with abnormal findings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z01.419</td>
<td>Encounter for gynecological examination (general) (routine) without abnormal findings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TAWG REVIEW DATES: 05/27/2016

REVISION HISTORY EXPLANATION
05/27/16: TAWG evaluated HPV testing for primary cervical cancer screening for women under age 30 using the Cobas lab test. Policy created to reflect most current clinical evidence per TAWG.
05/09/17: Added HCPCS code G0476 & ICD-10 codes Z11.51, Z01.411, Z01.419 per CMS guidelines. Policy created to reflect most current clinical evidence per the Medical Policy Steering Committee.

REFERENCES/RESOURCES
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS Manual System and other CMS publications and services
Ohio Department of Medicaid [http://jfs.ohio.gov/](http://jfs.ohio.gov/)
American Medical Association, Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) and associated publications and services
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System, HCPCS Release and Code Sets
Industry Standard Review
Hayes, Inc.