

December 6, 2022



<Provider Name>  
<Address>  
<City>, <State> <ZIP>

**Subject: Update to Genetic and Molecular Testing Payment Policy effective January 1, 2023**

Dear Administrator:

I am writing to make you aware that on January 1, 2023, Blue Shield of California (Blue Shield) will issue an update to the existing Genetic and Molecular Testing Payment Policy. This update will require that all providers include a Genetic Testing Unit (GTU), along with the genetic and molecular testing service procedure code, when submitting claims for genetic and molecular testing.

1. When billing an unlisted or non-specific code (for example, 81479), a procedure description is required with use of the Concert GTU (for example, *GTU-6V98G* or *6V98G*).
2. For all other codes impacted by this policy, Blue Shield recommends including the Concert GTU in the procedure description.
3. Providers are required to bill according to the CPT coding established on the Concert Genetics portal.

**GTU Basics**

Every genetic test in Concert Genetics' platform has been assigned a unique identifier, called a GTU (genetic testing unit). The Concert GTU is a five-digit alphanumeric character string, structured as represented below:

Position	1	2	3	4	5
Format	Numeric	Alphanumeric	Alphanumeric	Alphanumeric	G/C/A/T
Example	<b>5</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>G</b>

**Every uniquely orderable test on the Concert Platform has a unique GTU. GTUs can be looked up by anyone on the Concert Platform using the "Search" feature.**

**GTU Use on Healthcare Claims:**

Given the different claim forms and transactions, see below on where to put the GTU on each respective form/transaction.

Claim type	Field or segment	GTU format
<b>837P Transaction</b> (Professional claims)	Loop 2400 segment SV101-7	Insert the exact GTU or the GTU preceded by "GTU-." For example, insert either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6V98G</li><li>• GTU-6V98G</li></ul>
<b>HCFA/CMS 1500 Form</b> (Professional claims)	Item/box 19	
<b>837I Transaction</b> (Institutional claims)	Loop 2400 segment SV202-7	
<b>UB-04 Form</b> (Institutional claims)	Item/block 80	

Concert Genetics maintains detailed information on genetic and molecular tests, and their corresponding GTUs, and provides a standardized methodology for the use of CPT codes. Laboratories can register for the Concert Genetics portal on their website:

**<http://join.concertgenetics.com/bsca>.**

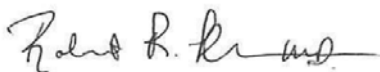
A copy of the Genetic and Molecular Testing Payment Policy is available to view or download from our Provider Connection website, **[www.blueshieldca.com/provider](http://www.blueshieldca.com/provider)**. To find it easily, after you have logged in, you can conduct a search for "Payment Policies and Rules" from the home page or click the Policies and Guidelines link under the *Claims* section on the home page, then navigate to *Payment Policies and Rules*. If you don't yet have an account on our website, it is fast and easy to register.

**Failure to comply with this policy may result in written notification from Blue Shield about this policy requirement. Repeated failure to comply with this policy may result in denied payment or contract termination according to the terms of the Provider Services Agreement.**

As a valued Blue Shield network provider, you play an important role in helping our members maximize their benefits and avoid payment for services that are not covered. We deeply appreciate the expert care you provide for our members, and we look forward to continuing in our collaboration with you to provide our members, your patients, with access to quality care.

If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact Concert Genetics at (855) 435-7643 or via email at **[help@concertgenetics.com](mailto:help@concertgenetics.com)**. For all other inquiries, please contact Provider Customer Service at (800) 541-6652, Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Sincerely,



Robert Plass, MD, MMM  
Medical Director, Policy and Technology Assessment