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**MCG message**

**To:** All Blue Cross Complete providers

**Date:** Oct. 31, 2023

**Subject:** **The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services increases early detection efforts for chronic kidney disease**

Today, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services issued [Letter 23-65](#) to ensure health care providers are aware of covered Medicaid services important in the identification of chronic kidney disease in patients who may benefit from early diagnosis.

As part of a Chronic Kidney Disease Prevention Strategy, Medicaid providers in Michigan are being encouraged to use laboratory tests to screen patients with diabetes or hypertension for CKD, and to consider the same screening for other conditions with an increased risk of CKD. This initiative is being led by the MDHHS and the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan.

CKD is defined as kidney damage or a decrease in kidney function for three or more months, regardless of cause. Early detection of CKD holds the potential to slow or prevent progression to kidney failure and dialysis.

Blue Cross Complete currently covers several laboratory services to help identify CKD when performed by enrolled health care provider. Covered testing include:

- Serum estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR).
- Urine albumin-creatinine ratio (uACR).
- Additional laboratory services determined clinically appropriate.

As always, refer to the [Prior Authorization Lookup Tool](#) to learn more about services that require prior authorization. If you have any questions, please contact your Blue Cross Complete provider account executive or Provider Inquiry at **1-888-312-5713**.

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