

**Health Technology Clinical Committee  
Final Findings and Decision**

**Topic:** Pharmacogenomic testing for selected conditions

**Meeting date:** January 20, 2017

**Final adoption:** March 17, 2017

**Meeting materials and transcript are available on the HTA website:**  
[www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/health-technology-assessment/meetings-and-materials](http://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/health-technology-assessment/meetings-and-materials)

**Number and coverage topic:**

20170120A - Pharmacogenomic testing for selected conditions

**HTCC coverage determination:**

Pharmacogenomic testing for selected conditions is **not covered**.

**HTCC reimbursement determination:**

**Limitations of coverage:** N/A

**Non-covered indicators:**

The selected conditions are: depression, mood disorders, psychosis, anxiety, ADHD, and substance use disorder.

**Agency contact information:**

Agency	Phone Number
Labor and Industries	1-800-547-8367
Public Employees Health Plan	1-800-200-1004
Washington State Medicaid	1-800-562-3022

**Final**

**HTCC coverage vote and formal action:**

**Committee decision**

Based on the deliberations of key health outcomes, the committee decided that it had the most complete information: a comprehensive and current evidence report, public comments, and state agency utilization information. The committee evaluated the available evidence. The committee discussed and voted on the evidence for use of pharmacogenomic testing compared to current alternative strategies. A majority of committee members found the technology unproven for safety, efficacy and cost-effectiveness based on the quality of available evidence. The committee considered and gave greatest weight to the evidence it determined, based on objective factors, to be the most valid and reliable.

Based on these findings the committee voted to not cover pharmacogenomic testing for selected conditions.

	Not covered	Covered under certain conditions	Covered unconditionally
Pharmacogenomic testing for selected conditions	7	3	0

**Discussion**

The committee reviewed and discussed the available studies of pharmacogenomics. Details of study design, inclusion criteria and other factors affecting or potentially affecting study quality were discussed.

**Limitations**

Not applicable.

**Action**

The committee checked for availability of a Medicare national coverage decision (NCD). There is no NCD for pharmacogenomic testing.

The committee discussed clinical guidelines identified for pharmacogenomic testing for select conditions from the following organizations:

- Clinical practice guidelines: Depression in adolescents and young adults (2010)
- Position Statement : The value of antidepressants in the treatment of unipolar depression (2011) European Psychiatric Association
- Adult Depression in Primary Care (2016) ICIS
- Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Management of Major Depressive Disorders (2016) VA/DoD:
- World Federation of Societies for Biological Treatment of Unipolar Depressive Disorders (2013)
- Practice Guidelines for the treatment of Patients with Panic Disorders (2009) American Psychiatric Association (APA)

- Practice Guidelines for the Treatment of Patients with Substance Use Disorders (2006) APA
- Guidelines: Pharmacological management of substance abuse, harmful use, addiction and comorbidity (2005) BAP
- Expert Group Consensus Guidelines: Focus on the therapeutic monitoring of antidepressants (2005) AGNP

The committee chair directed HTA staff to prepare a findings and decision document for pharmacogenomic testing for selected conditions reflective of the majority vote for public comment, followed by consideration for final approval at the next public meeting.

#### **Health Technology Clinical Committee Authority:**

Washington State's legislature believes it is important to use a science-based, clinician-centered approach for difficult and important health care benefit decisions. Pursuant to chapter 70.14 RCW, the legislature has directed the Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA), through its Health Technology Assessment (HTA) program, to engage in an evaluation process that gathers and assesses the quality of the latest medical evidence using a scientific research company and that takes public input at all stages.

Pursuant to RCW 70.14.110 a Health Technology Clinical Committee (HTCC) composed of eleven independent health care professionals reviews all the information and renders a decision at an open public meeting. The Washington State HTCC determines how selected health technologies are covered by several state agencies (RCW 70.14.080-140). These technologies may include medical or surgical devices and procedures, medical equipment, and diagnostic tests. HTCC bases its decisions on evidence of the technology's safety, efficacy, and cost effectiveness. Participating state agencies are required to comply with the decisions of the HTCC. HTCC decisions may be re-reviewed at the determination of the HCA Administrator.