

# **Drug Testing & Telemedicine - 2020**

Paradigm Labs is doing its part to support healthcare providers and their patients continue drug use monitoring during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (COVID-19 PHE). To this end, Paradigm Labs offers three different platforms to facilitate medically necessary drug testing for the duration of the COVID-19 PHE. Selection of a testing option depends on whether you are using telemedicine to "see" patients and whether you live in a state that permits healthcare providers to "see" patients in person. As of June 1, 2020, many Paradigm clients are using hybrid models, meaning a combination of seeing patients "in-person" and use of virtual visits via telemedicine equipment.

We understand that the treatments provided to patients by Paradigm clients is a critical tool used by healthcare professionals to minimize unnecessary emergency department visits and conserving healthcare personal protective equipment and related tools. Please let us know if you have any questions about continued drugs of abuse testing during the COVID-19 PHE.

## PARADIGM BENCHMARK OFT™

Ideal for practices using telemedicine visits to "see" patients

Paradigm's Benchmark OFT™ involves LC/MS/MS\* presumptive testing of 30+ specific drug analytes using a saliva specimen. All presumptive positive test results are reported "qualitatively" and will "reflex" for definitive testing and "quantitative" reporting. Practice reported medications will always be sent for definitive testing regardless of the presumptive outcomes.

Paradigm representatives will work with you and your staff to facilitate collection of an oral fluid specimen from your patient during a tele-video or tele-smart phone or similar application. The patient will consent to, collect, package and seal the specimen while under direct observation of a healthcare provider or medical staff representative – during a telemedicine visit or as otherwise directed by the provider. The sealed package will be mailed to Paradigm for testing and reporting.

### PARADIGM BENCHMARK OFT™ or BENCHMARK UDT™

Ideal hybrid for practices using both in-office and telemedicine visits

Paradigm recommends using Benchmark OFT<sup>TM</sup> for telemedicine visits or if you think a patient might be adulterating his/her urine sample. Oral fluid testing allows for non-invasive, observed collection. Oral fluid testing is also beneficial for patients who have medical conditions that make urine collection problematic.

Paradigm recommends using Benchmark UDT<sup>TM</sup> for patient encounters taking place at the medical practice and where specimen adulteration is not suspected. Benchmark UDT<sup>TM</sup> involves LC/MS/MS presumptive testing of 65+ specific drug analytes using a urine specimen. Your test order for Benchmark UDT<sup>TM</sup> includes an order to perform presumptive analysis with qualitative (positive or negative) results, and an order to "reflex" presumptive positive and unexpected negative results for definitive testing. Practice reported medications will always be analyzed using definitive testing, regardless of the presumptive test results. Benchmark UDT<sup>TM</sup> also allows for add-on test orders for a limited number of drug classes that cannot be tested using presumptive LC/MS/MS because of the scientific characteristics of the specific drug analytes within the class.

All results are available through our on-line laboratory information management system and our scientists are available to you if you wish to discuss any test results.

<sup>\*</sup>LC/MS/MS = Liquid Chromatography with Mass Spectrometry

# Visual of Paradigm's Benchmark OFT™ and UDT™ Process

Benchmark OFT Presumptive LC/MS/MS\* tests 30+ specific analytes (17 drug classes) Benchmark Urine Presumptive LC/MS/MS\* tests for 65+ specific analytes (22+ drug classes)



#### **Reflex Definitive Testing**

All analytes with a presumptive positive outcome and all practice reported medications will be tested and reported with a quantitative result.

Testing is for 1 to 7 drug classes and in some cases 8 to 14 drug classes, depending on individual patient facts.



Results Reported within 24-48 hours of specimen receipt via on-line client portal.

# General Billing Information for Benchmark OFT™ and Benchmark UDT™

Test and Code	Paradigm 2020 Fee Schedule
Presumptive LC/MS/MS; CPT 80307	80307 - \$145.46
Definitive LC/MS/MS with quantitative results: HCPCS G0480 or G0481	G0480 - \$257.46 OR G0481 - \$352.32

Paradigm participates in Medicare and various Medicaid plans. Paradigm also has network contracts with BCBS individual state plans and many other major commercial plans.

Paradigm is proud to serve you and your patients during this very challenging period. We believe our Benchmark OFT<sup>TM</sup> and Benchmark UDT<sup>TM</sup> testing platforms will facilitate your ongoing business operations and preserve the patient's appropriate and ongoing access to quality healthcare during the COVID-19 PHE.

#### **Turnaround Time**

Paradigm reports all testing in 24 to 48 hours from receipt of specimen.

## **Medical Necessity**

Paradigm keeps a library of payor policies and other clinical guidelines, position statements, and licensing board materials. These items are available upon request.

Paradigm's scientists are available to discuss the responsible use of definitive LC/MS/MS testing.

For additional information, contact:

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<sup>\*</sup>LC/MS/MS = Liquid Chromatography with Mass Spectrometry