

HEALTH PLAN POLICY	
Policy Title: Genetic Expression Profiling – Cancers of Unknown Primary	Policy Number: MUM52 Revision: B
Department: Medical Management	Sub-Department: Utilization Management
Applies to Product Lines: <input type="checkbox"/> Medicaid <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USFHP <input type="checkbox"/> Children’s Health Insurance Plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial Insured <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health Insurance Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> Non Insured Business <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medicare	
Origination/Effective Date: 10/09/2019	
Reviewed Date(s):	Revision Date(s): 10/05/2020, 10/11/2021

SCOPE:

This policy addresses the use of genetic expression profiling to identify malignancies of unknown primary origin.

DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS:

- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
- Cancer of Unknown Primary (CUP)
- Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)
- Genetic Expression Profiling (GEP)
- Immunohistochemistry (IHC)
- National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN)

POLICY:

GEP is considered investigational and not medically necessary.

RATIONALE:

The NCCN CPG for CUP typically involve aggressive malignancies with short median survivals of 6 months. As a group, CUP represents only a small percentage (5%) of cancers. Although diagnostic benefit occurs 30% of the time, no clinical benefit accrues with GEP. Alternate testing modalities such as IHC are of similar diagnostic value.

In conclusion, this test is considered a Category 3 recommendation that involves only major disagreement among medical professionals without consensus.

REFERENCES:

- NCCN CPG 2019 – Primary Occult Tumors
- AHRQ 2013- Meleth – Tech Assessment of Genetic Tests

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RELATED DOCUMENTS:

None

REVISION HISTORY:

Revision	Date	Description of Change	Committee
New	10/09/2019	Initial release.	Executive Leadership
A	10/05/2020	Yearly review. No change to policy content.	Executive Leadership
B	10/11/2021	Yearly review. No change to policy content.	Executive Leadership