Subject: Tumor Chemotherapy Sensitivity and Resistance Assays*

Updated: February 23, 2010

Department(s): Utilization Management

Policy: *Ex vivo* assays of the sensitivity or resistance of tumor tissue to chemotherapeutic agents are not reimbursable under Plans administered by QualCare, Inc.

Objective: To assure proper and consistent reimbursement and to limit reimbursement to modalities for which there is adequate support in peer-reviewed literature.

Procedure: Requests for reimbursement for *ex vivo* assays of the sensitivity or resistance of tumor tissue to chemotherapeutic agents will be denied as there is not as yet a satisfactory body of peer-reviewed literature that substantiates their validity or their impact on improved patient management or health outcomes. They are thus deemed experimental, investigational and unproven.

This policy applies to ChemoFx® as well as other assays of the sensitivity or resistance of tumor tissue to chemotherapeutic agents.

References


Kubot T, Weisenthal L. Chemotherapy sensitivity and resistance testing: to be “standard” or to be individualized, that is the question. *Gastric Cancer* 2006;9(2):82-87 (Jan)


*Consistent with Summary Plan Description (SPD). When there is discordance between this policy and the SPD, the provisions of the SPD prevail.*