

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1599

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE HRUZA.

3235H.011

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 208, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to MO HealthNet reimbursement for clinical pathology services.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 208, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 208.149, to read as follows:

208.149. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

2 (1) "Clinical pathology services", professional medical services provided by a
3 pathologist for the examination, diagnosis, and interpretation of laboratory tests
4 performed on patient specimens to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of disease.
5 Clinical pathology services include, but are not limited to, hematology, microbiology,
6 immunology, clinical chemistry, molecular pathology, and other laboratory-based
7 diagnostic procedures;

8 (2) "Hospital-based pathologist", a licensed physician specializing in pathology
9 who provides clinical pathology services within a hospital setting;

10 (3) "Professional component of clinical pathology services", the portion of
11 clinical pathology services that involves the pathologist's professional expertise in
12 interpreting and supervising laboratory tests, excluding the technical component of
13 performing the laboratory tests.

14 2. The fee for the professional component of clinical pathology services shall be
15 paid by MO HealthNet for professional services provided by a hospital-based
16 pathologist for inpatient clinical pathology services rendered to patients covered by
17 the MO HealthNet program.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in bold-face type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 **3. The reimbursement amount for the professional component of clinical**
19 **pathology services shall be set at thirty percent of the approved outpatient simplified fee**
20 **schedule based on Medicare's clinical laboratory fee schedule for the corresponding**
21 **clinical pathology services payable by MO HealthNet.**

22 **4. (1) If the fee for the professional component of clinical pathology services is**
23 **paid for professional services provided by a pathologist employed by the hospital where**
24 **the clinical pathology services are rendered to covered MO HealthNet patients, the**
25 **professional fee shall be paid directly to the hospital.**

26 **(2) If the fee for the professional component of clinical pathology services is paid**
27 **for professional services provided by a pathologist who is not employed by the hospital**
28 **where clinical pathology services are rendered to covered MO HealthNet patients, the**
29 **professional fee shall be paid directly to the third party providing the services.**

30 **5. The department of social services shall promulgate all necessary rules and**
31 **regulations for the administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that**
32 **term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this**
33 **section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the**
34 **provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter**
35 **536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly**
36 **pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul**
37 **a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority**
38 **and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2025, shall be invalid and void.**

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