

Bulletin



Bulletin Number 4380	Date December 14, 2001	Direct inquiries to
Distribution Physicians, Hospitals, Clinics, Laboratories		Ministry of Health Processing Office <i>(address below)</i>

Subject **Changes to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Schedule of Benefits for Laboratory Services of April 1, 1999**

BACKGROUND:

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Ontario Association of Medical Laboratories (OAML) have agreed to the following changes to the Schedule of Benefits for Laboratory Services:

- a) a change in the LMS units for code L713, cervicovaginal specimen, for tests carried out between April 1, 2001 and January 31, 2002, subject to certain conditions (see attachment)
- b) the addition of a new test for cervical screening using the monolayer cell methodology (code L733) effective October 1, 2001
- c) reductions in LMS unit values for specified tests effective October 1, 2001 for the purpose of reducing the laboratories' total billings by \$15 million for 2001/02 and \$30 million in 2002/03

This bulletin provides details of these changes to the April 1, 1999 Schedule of Benefits. Also attached is a copy of the Addendum dated April 1, 2001 to the Schedule of Benefits for Laboratory Services.

BILLINGS CHANGES

A. LMS UNIT CHANGE EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2001 - L713

Effective **April 1, 2001**, the Labour Material and Supervision (LMS) units for the following code has been revised as follows :

F.S. CODE	DESCRIPTION	OLD LMS UNITS	NEW LMS UNITS
L713	Cervicovaginal specimen	20	27

B. LMS UNIT CHANGE EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2002 - L713

Effective **February 1, 2002**, the LMS units for test L713 will be revised as follows:

[../2](#)

Office locations

Barrie 30 Poyntz St. L4M 3P2	Hamilton 119 King St. W P.O. Box 2280, Stn. A L8N 4C8	Kenora 220-808 Robertson St. P9N 1X9	Kingston 1055 Princess St. P.O. Box 9000 K7L 5A9	Kitchener 1400 Weber St. E. Unit B2 N2A 3Z8
London 217 York St., 5th Floor P.O. Box 5700 Terminal A N6A 1B7	Mississauga 201 City Centre Dr. P.O. Box 7020, Stn. A L5A 3M1	North Bay 101-447 McKeown St. P1B 9S9	Oshawa Exec. Tower, Oshawa Centre. 419 King St. W. P.O. Box 635 L1H 8L4	Ottawa Fuller Building 75 Albert Street K1P 5Y9
Owen Sound 981 2nd Avenue E. N4K 2H5	Peterborough 550 Lansdowne St. W. K9J 8J8	St. Catharines 59 Church St 3rd Floor L2R 3C3	Sarnia 452 Christina St. N. N7T 5W4	Sault Ste. Marie Roberta Bondar Place 70 Foster Dr., Ste. 100 P6A 6V4
Sudbury 199 Larch St., Suite 801 P3E 5R1	Thunder Bay 435 James St. S. , Suite 113 P7E 6T1	Timmins 38 Pine St. N., Ste. 110 P4N 6K6	Toronto 2195 Yonge St. P.O Box 1700 Stn. A M5W 1G9	Windsor 1427 Ouellette Ave. N8X 1K1
		Head Office P.O. Box 48 Kingston, ON K7L 5J3		

-2-

F.S. CODE	DESCRIPTION	OLD LMS UNITS	NEW LMS UNITS
L713	Cervicovaginal specimen	27	20

C. NEW TEST – CERVICOVAGINAL SPECIMEN (L733) (monolayer cell methodology)

Effective **October 1, 2001** a new test, Cervicovaginal specimen (monolayer cell methodology), (L733) has been added to the Schedule. A claim for this test can be made if the test is performed using the monolayer cell methodology. A maximum of one L733 can be claimed per patient per day. L713 and L733 cannot be claimed for the same patient on the same service date.

F.S. CODE	DESCRIPTION	OLD LMS UNITS	NEW LMS UNITS
L733	Cervicovaginal specimen (monolayer cell methodology)	-	27

In order to claim the new test, Community Laboratories are requested to submit an application to Laboratory Licensing and Inspection Service to have L733 added to their test menu.

D. LMS UNIT CHANGES EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2001

Effective **October 1, 2001**, the LMS units for the following test codes have been revised as follows :

F.S. CODE	DESCRIPTION	OLD LMS UNITS	NEW LMS UNITS
L309	Folate in red cells, to include hematocrit and if requested, serum folate	60	50
L315	FSH (pituitary gonadotrophins)	28	18
L328	LH (Luteinizing hormone)	28	18
L329	Ferritin	28	18
L334	IgE – not to be billed for RAST test	28	18
L341	TSH (thyroid stimulating hormone)	28	18

L393	Complete Blood Count (any method, see Preamble paragraph 14)	16	15
L544	Antinuclear (see Preamble, paragraph 24)	35	24
L634	Urine calibrated volume to include plate, turbidimetric or photometric techniques (see Preamble paragraph 6)	25	20
L944	Antinuclear by secondary laboratory (see Preamble paragraph 24)	35	24

SYSTEM CHANGES

System changes have been made to the Medical Claims Payment system effective **April 1, 2001** for the payment for L713 services. Any retroactive adjustments were processed in the November 2001 payment.

Additional changes have been implemented to add code L733 and reduce the LMS units for the specified tests effective **October 1, 2001**.

[...Previous page](#)
[Bulletin Menu](#)
[Next page...](#)

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-3-

**ADDENDUM DATED APRIL 1, 2001
TO SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS FOR LABORATORY SERVICES**

Effective April 1, 2001 the Schedule of Benefits for Laboratory Services has changed as follows:

1. The number of units for each L713 test carried out between April 1, 2001 and January 31, 2002 shall be 27 and not 20.
2. The increase from 20 to 27 units is conditional on:
 - a) the laboratory performing more L733 services than L713 services during the period from February 1 to September 30, 2002, and
 - b) the number of L733 services performed by the laboratory in February 2002 being at least 35% of the total L713 and L733 services performed by the laboratory during that month.

Effective October 1, 2001 the Schedule of Benefits for Laboratory Services is changed as follows:

1. The following test is added to the Schedule :

<u>F.S. Code</u>		LMS Units
L733	cervical specimen (including all types of cellular abnormality assessment of flora and/or cyto hormonal evaluation) using the monolayer cell methodology	27 units

2. 2. The number of LMS units for each test set out below is as follows:

<u>F.S. Code</u>	<u>LMS Units</u>
L309	50
L315	18
L328	18
L329	18
L334	18

L341	18
L393	15
L544	24
L634	20
L944	24

[...Previous page](#)

[Bulletin Menu](#)

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