

# Lab Billing Brief

## Navigating and Preventing Denials

*This bulletin aims to keep you informed and equipped with the latest information on medical necessity of the tests you order to ensure accurate and efficient billing practices.*

March 17, 2026

### Tests that contain CPT: 84443, 84436, 84439

- **TSH** [LAB129]
- **Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH) (Southeast Michigan Only)** [LAB1231632]
- **TSH reflex to Free T4 if indicated** [LAB1000]
- **Thyroid Function Cascade** [LAB3077]
- **T4 Total** [LAB126]
- **T4 Free** [LAB127]
- **T4 Free Direct Dialysis** [LAB1232161]
- **Thyroid Panel** [LAB1232218]

### More Info Available:

- [Medicare NCD](#)
- [BCBS Policy](#)

## Thyroid Testing

Corewell Health is seeing large numbers of denials for 84443 Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH), as well as 84436 Thyroxine Total and 84439 Thyroxine Free, due to lack of medical necessity.

## When Testing is Medically Supported

When individuals have signs or symptoms of hyperthyroidism or hypothyroidism, or for asymptomatic individuals at an increased risk for thyroid disease.

### Commonly used diagnosis codes that meet medical necessity:

*(This list is not exhaustive.)*

- **E03.9:** Hypothyroidism, unspecified
- **I10:** Essential (primary) hypertension
- **E78.2:** Mixed hyperlipidemia
- **R53.83:** Other fatigue
- **E06.3:** Autoimmune thyroiditis

## When Testing Is NOT Medically Supported

**Routine testing or general screening for asymptomatic individuals that do not have increased risk for thyroid disease.**

### Commonly used diagnosis codes that do not support medical necessity:

- **Z00.00:** Routine physical examination
- **Z13.29:** Encounter for screening for other suspected endocrine disorders
- **R79.89:** Other specified abnormal findings of blood chemistry
- **Z13.0:** Encounter for screening for diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs
- **R4R42:** Dizziness and giddiness