

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.

August 18, 2026

Tests that contain CPT: 83036

- Hemoglobin A1C [LAB90]

More Info Available:
[Medicare NCD](#)

[Priority Health Preventative Policy](#)

[BCBS Anthem Policy](#)

Including link, but not a current issue.

A1C Glycated Hemoglobin Testing

Corewell Health is seeing increasing denials for 83036 A1C testing, mostly for Medicare and Med Advantage patients, with some increase from Priority Health commercial patients.

When Testing is Medically Supported

Glycated hemoglobin testing is accepted as medically necessary for management and control of diabetes and to assess hyperglycemia, a history of hyperglycemia or dangerous hypoglycemia.

Commonly used diagnosis codes that meet medical necessity:
(This list is not exhaustive.)

- **E11.9:** Type 2 diabetes mellitus without complications
- **E11.65:** Type 2 diabetes mellitus with hyperglycemia
 - Almost any Diabetes dx code E08-E13
- **R73.03:** Prediabetes
- **R73.01:** Impaired fasting glucose
- **E16.xx:** Various Hypoglycemia diagnosis codes

Also covered when screening, provided screening diagnosis code is used.

- **Z13.1:** Encounter for screening for diabetes mellitus

When Testing Is NOT Medically Supported

Routine testing or general screening of asymptomatic individuals does not meet medical necessity.

Commonly used diagnosis codes that do not support medical necessity:

- **Z00.00:** Routine physical examination
- **Z01.818:** Encounter for other preprocedural examination
- **I10:** Essential (primary) hypertension
- **E78.5:** Hyperlipidemia, unspecified
- **E66.X:** Overweight/Obesity diagnoses
 - Does not apply to commercial plans