

# Tumor Antigen by Immunoassay CA 125

CPT: 86304

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Medically Supportive ICD Codes are listed  
on subsequent page(s) of this document

## CMS National Coverage Policy

### Coverage Indications, Limitations, and/or Medical Necessity

Immunoassay determinations of the serum levels of certain proteins or carbohydrates serve as tumor markers. When elevated, serum concentration of these markers may reflect tumor size and grade. This policy specifically addresses tumor antigen CA 125.

### Indications

CA 125 is a high molecular weight serum tumor marker elevated in 80% of patients who present with epithelial ovarian carcinoma. It is also elevated in carcinomas of the fallopian tube, endometrium, and endocervix. An elevated level may also be associated with the presence of a malignant mesothelioma or primary peritoneal carcinoma.

A CA 125 level may be obtained as part of the initial pre-operative work-up for women presenting with a suspicious pelvic mass to be used as a baseline for purposes of post-operative monitoring. Initial declines in CA 125 after initial surgery and/or chemotherapy for ovarian carcinoma are also measured by obtaining three serum levels during the first month post treatment to determine the patient's CA 125 half-life, which has significant prognostic implications.

The CA 125 levels are again obtained at the completion of chemotherapy as an index of residual disease. Surveillance CA 125 measurements are generally obtained every 3 months for 2 years, every 6 months for the next 3 years, and yearly thereafter. CA 125 levels are also an important indicator of a patient's response to therapy in the presence of advanced or recurrent disease. In this setting, CA 125 levels may be obtained prior to each treatment cycle.

### Limitations

These services are not covered for the evaluation of patients with signs or symptoms suggestive of malignancy. The service may be ordered at times necessary to assess either the presence of recurrent disease or the patient's response to treatment with subsequent treatment cycles.

The CA 125 is specifically not covered for aiding in the differential diagnosis of patients with a pelvic mass as the sensitivity and specificity of the test is not sufficient. In general, a single "tumor marker" will suffice in following a patient with one of these malignancies.

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Visit [QuestDiagnostics.com/MLCP](https://www.questdiagnostics.com/MLCP) to view current limited coverage tests, reference guides, and policy information.

To view the complete policy and the full list of medically supportive codes, please refer to the CMS website reference [www.cms.gov](https://www.cms.gov)

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The ICD10 codes listed below are the top diagnosis codes currently utilized by ordering physicians for the limited coverage test highlighted above that are also listed as medically supportive under Medicare's limited coverage policy. **If you are ordering this test for diagnostic reasons that are not covered under Medicare policy, an Advance Beneficiary Notice form is required.**

Please refer to the [Limitations or Utilization Guidelines](#) section on previous page(s) for frequency information.

Code	Description
C48.1	Malignant neoplasm of specified parts of peritoneum
C48.2	Malignant neoplasm of peritoneum, unspecified
C54.1	Malignant neoplasm of endometrium
C54.9	Malignant neoplasm of corpus uteri, unspecified
C56.1	Malignant neoplasm of right ovary
C56.2	Malignant neoplasm of left ovary
C56.3	Malignant neoplasm of bilateral ovaries
C56.9	Malignant neoplasm of unspecified ovary
C57.00	Malignant neoplasm of unspecified fallopian tube
C57.01	Malignant neoplasm of right fallopian tube
C57.02	Malignant neoplasm of left fallopian tube
D39.10	Neoplasm of uncertain behavior of unspecified ovary
D39.11	Neoplasm of uncertain behavior of right ovary
D39.12	Neoplasm of uncertain behavior of left ovary
G89.3	Neoplasm related pain (acute) (chronic)
R19.09	Other intra-abdominal and pelvic swelling, mass and lump
R97.1	Elevated cancer antigen 125 [CA 125]
R97.8	Other abnormal tumor markers
Z85.42	Personal history of malignant neoplasm of oth prt uterus
Z85.43	Personal history of malignant neoplasm of ovary

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Last updated: 10/01/25

**Disclaimer:**

This diagnosis code reference guide is provided for informational purposes only as an aid to physicians and office staff in determining when an ABN (Advance Beneficiary Notice) is necessary, as of the date last updated. Diagnosis codes must be applicable to the patient's symptoms or conditions and must be consistent with documentation in the patient's medical record. Quest Diagnostics does not recommend any diagnosis codes and will only submit diagnosis information provided to us by the ordering physician or his/her designated staff. The CPT codes provided are based on AMA guidelines and are for informational purposes only. CPT coding is the sole responsibility of the billing party. Please direct any questions regarding coding to the payer being billed.

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