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PUBLIC NOTICE
(SPA #27-0001)
LABORATORY PROGRAM
LABORATORY 87631 RATE CHANGE

The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Benefits, hereby provides notice of its intent to amend the Medicaid State Plan Attachment 4.19-B, Section 3, Page 1. This amendment authorizes the Division of Health Benefits to increase the laboratory reimbursement rate for procedure code 87631 to $142.63.

The amendments will become effective January 1, 2027.
The annual estimated state and federal fiscal impacts of these changes are:

State Fiscal Year	Assessments/ IGTs	State Budget Impact	Federal Budget Impact	Total Impact
2027	$1,242	$53,140	$106,302	$160,684
2028	$2,508	$107,342	$214,730	$324,580

Federal Fiscal Year	Assessments/ IGTs	State Budget Impact	Federal Budget Impact	Total Impact
2027	$1,869	$79,975	$159,984	$241,828
2028	$2,527	$108,148	$216,340	$327,015

Reason for the change:
This update aligns the reimbursement rate for CPT 87631 with comparable respiratory viral panel codes (87636 and 87637), which are currently reimbursed at $142.63.

A copy of the proposed public notice may be viewed at the County Department of Social Services. Questions, comments and requests for copies of the proposed State Plan amendment should be directed to the Division of Health Benefits at the address listed below. Written public comments may also be submitted to this address:

Melanie Bush
Deputy Secretary for NC Medicaid
Division of Health Benefits
2501 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2501
medicaidrulescomments@dhhs.nc.gov

Public Hearings:
Public hearings regarding this amendment will be announced on the Division of Health Benefits website. Information will include the date, time, location, or virtual attendance instructions.

Posted on the Division of Health Benefits Website: November 23, 2026
https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/get-involved/nc-health-choice-state-plan