

# **Clinical Genetics Pre-Visit Information**

## **Insurance Coverage and Costs**

A number of insurance carriers have a contracted relationship with us. Each carrier has different criteria for coverage of genetic counseling and testing.

If you have questions regarding your specific plan, check with your insurance carrier directly or call the Memorial Sloan Kettering Insurance Line at 646-497-9176.

We recommend that you contact your carrier prior to your appointment to verify what costs, if any, will be covered under your plan.

## **Precertification and Authorization**

Some insurance carriers may require that you precertify some or all clinical genetics services you receive. If your insurance carrier requires precertification prior to your genetic counseling session, your referring physician will need to call the insurance company before your appointment. Please note that the Clinical Genetics Service is unable to request precertification on your behalf.

If you require precertification for testing, we can provide you with a letter of medical necessity to submit to your carrier after you have completed your counseling.

## **CPT Codes**

Some insurance companies may require that you provide something called a CPT code, which is a five digit numeric code that is used to describe services of physicians, hospitals, and other health care providers, so that you can be precertified for your genetic counseling visit. The CPT code may vary depending on the amount of time you spend with your counselor.

Your insurance can verify the following CPT codes:

- LV1 99201
- LV2 99202
- LV3 99203
- LV4 99204
- LV5 99205

If you need to have blood work done on the day of your initial consultation, you will receive information about related CPT codes during your visit.

## **Out of Pocket Costs**

If your carrier does not cover the cost of genetic counseling or testing, you will be responsible for the charges and receive a bill for the balance from Memorial Hospital. The cost for an initial consultation may range from \$230 to \$650, depending on the amount of time you spend with your physician. The cost for a follow-up session ranges from \$85 to \$375, and prices for genetic testing range from approximately \$350 to \$4,000.

## **Privacy**

As part of your patient privacy rights, your genetic test results and medical records will be kept private and confidential. When you register, you'll receive more information about privacy, including who will have access to your medical records and why your records might need to be accessed. If you are registering at MSK for the first time, you'll also receive a notice of privacy practices, which explains our privacy policy.

Genetic test results may be disclosed to other healthcare providers, insurance payers, and other individuals or entities authorized to access your medical record, in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. Your healthcare provider or genetic counselor can clarify who will have access to the test results.

We cannot fully guarantee that no one will ever try to use your genetic test results against you. However, in the United States, there are federal laws and some state laws that prohibit the collection, use, and unauthorized disclosure of genetic testing. These laws attempt to reduce the chance that you will be discriminated against because of genetic test results.

## **Questions**

If you have questions about this information, please call the Clinical Genetics Service at 646-888-4050.