



# PROVIDER ALERT

March 16, 2016



## Coverage Expanded for Genetic Testing for Thyroid Cancer

### Alert

Medica has recently reviewed genetic testing for thyroid cancer and determined that the Afirma Thyroid FNA Analysis *is not investigative* when fine needle aspiration (FNA) of thyroid nodules is inconclusive. Therefore, Medica *has expanded member coverage* to include this test, effective with March 16, 2016, dates of service. All other genetic testing for thyroid cancer *continues to be considered investigative and therefore is not covered*. Reliable evidence does not permit conclusions concerning the effectiveness of these other tests (which include but are not limited to ThyroSeq Next Generation sequencing panel, ThyGenX oncogene panel, ThyraMIR miRNA gene expression classifier, and BRAF p.Va1600Glu testing).

This benefit change applies to all Medica products including government products unless a particular health plan (whether commercial, Medicare or Medicaid) requires different coverage. Medica will update its policy "Genetic Testing for Thyroid Cancer," addressing current tests available for the detection of thyroid cancer.

### Action

No action is required. The updated coverage policy will be available online soon. [See Medica's coverage policies](#) or call the Medica Provider Literature Request Line for a printed copy, toll-free at 1-800-458-5512, option 1, then option 5, ext. 2-2355.

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