Center for Translational & Policy Research on Precision Medicine

TRANSPERS Program on Evidence and Reimbursement for Personalized Medicine
Systematic Evidence Reviews of Payer Coverage Policies:
TRANSPERS Payer Coverage Policy Registry

A major focus of the TRANSPERS Center is coverage, reimbursement, and policy decisions by payers on Precision Medicine. To further our work in this area, we developed the TRANSPERS Payer Coverage Policy Registry, which systematically synthesizes payer coverage policies on multi-gene panels and sequencing tests ("panels") in order to be able to assess which panels are covered by payers, what factors relevant to coverage decisions are discussed in policies, and how coverage policies vary.

Registry Development and Focus

The UCSF TRANSPERS Payer Coverage Registry© was initially developed in 2014 with a team of collaborators from multiple institutions (UCSF, Tufts Medical Center, American Institutes for Research, and Center for Business Models in Healthcare), with funding from the National Human Genome Research Institute (R01HG007063).

We have continued updating the Registry to address specific topics as they emerge. To our knowledge, our Registry is the only systematic registry of private payer coverage policies focusing on genetic tests developed by an academic institution. We examine a range of coverage policies across multiple private and public payers and across policies that pertain to a broad range of tests and testing indications.

Selected Publications from the Registry

1. Douglas MP, Gray SW, Phillips KA. Private Payer and Medicare Coverage Policies for Circulating Tumor DNA Testing in Cancer Patients: Trends from 2015-2019. Journal of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network. 2020;18(7):866-872.
2. Trosman JR, Douglas MP, Liang S, Weldon CB, Kurian AW, Kelley RK, Phillips KA. Insights from a Temporal Assessment of Increases in U.S. Private Payer Coverage of Tumor Sequencing from 2015 to 2019. Value Health. 2020;23(5):551-558.
3. Douglas MP. Parker S. Trosman JR. Slavotinek A. Phillips KA. Private Payer Coverage Policies for Whole Exome Sequencing (WES) in pediatric patients: trends over time and analysis of evidence cited. Genet Med. 2019;21(1):152-160.
4. Trosman JR, Weldon CB, Douglas MP, Kurian AW, Kelley RK, Deverka PA, et al. Payer Coverage of Hereditary Cancer Panels: Barriers, Opportunities, and Implications for the Precision Medicine Initiative. Journal of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network; 2017:15(2):219-228.
5. Dervan A, Deverka PA, Trosman JR, Weldon CB, Douglas MP, Phillips KA. Payer Decision-Making for Next Generation Sequencing-Based Genetic Tests: Insights from Non-Invasive Prenatal Screening. Genet Med. 2017:19(5):559-567.
6. Phillips KA, Trosman JR, Weldon CB, Chambers J, Deverka PA, Douglas MP. Payer coverage policies for multigene tests. Nat Biotech. 2017:35(7):614-617.
7. Chambers J, Saret C, Anderson J, Deverka PA, Douglas MP, Phillips KA. Examining Evidence in U.S. Payer Coverage Policies for Multi-Gene Panels and Sequencing Tests. Int J Technol Assess Health Care. 2017:33(4):534-540.
8. Clain E, Trosman JR, Douglas MP, Weldon CB, Phillips KA. Availability and payer coverage of BRCA1/2 tests and gene panels. Nat Biotechnol. 2015 Sep;33(9):900-2.

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