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## Des Moines Laboratory Update

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### Stool Occult Blood – Cancer Screening vs. Diagnostic Test Order

To avoid denied claims, please select the appropriate test when ordering stool exams for occult blood. An increase in denials has been noted with use of the screening test and lack of medical necessity documentation.

<b>Occult Blood Immunoassay Diagnostic (OCCBL DX)</b> CPT 82274	Used for detection of occult (hidden) blood when GI bleeding is suspected or is to be ruled out. Useful for diagnosis related to anemia, esophagitis, ulcers, gastritis, inflammatory bowel disease and other conditions that may result in blood loss through the stool.
<b>Occult Blood Immunoassay Cancer Screening (OCCBL SC)</b> Methodology: Immunoassay HCPCS G0328 or 82274	Used exclusively for colorectal cancer screening for early detection of cancer in asymptomatic or/or high-risk individuals. Please refer to <a href="#">CMS National Coverage Policy: Colorectal Screening</a> for specific guidelines related to colorectal screen procedures, medical necessity coding and frequency of testing.

Thank you for choosing MercyOne Des Moines Laboratory.