

Lung Cancer Focused Panel Tests via Circulating Tumor DNA (ctDNA)

- I. Lung cancer focused panel tests via [circulating tumor DNA \(ctDNA\)](#) (0179U, 81210, 81235, 81275, 81479, 81445) are considered **medically necessary** when:
 - A. The member has a diagnosis or progression of any of the following:
 1. Advanced (stage IIIb or higher) or metastatic lung adenocarcinoma, **OR**
 2. Advanced (stage IIIb or higher) or metastatic large cell lung carcinoma, **OR**
 3. Advanced (stage IIIb or higher) or metastatic squamous cell lung carcinoma, **OR**
 4. Advanced (stage IIIb or higher) or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) not otherwise specified (NOS), **AND**
 - B. At least one of the following:
 1. The member is medically unfit for invasive tissue sampling (biopsy), **OR**
 2. Biopsy was performed, but material was insufficient for molecular analysis, **OR**
 3. Biopsy was performed, but molecular analysis was not able to be completely assessed on tissue due to availability of testing methodologies.
- II. Lung cancer focused panel tests via [circulating tumor DNA \(ctDNA\)](#) (0179U, 81210, 81235, 81275, 81479, 81445) are considered **investigational** for all other indications.

NOTES AND DEFINITIONS

1. **Cell-free circulating tumor DNA (ctDNA)** is fragmented, tumor-derived DNA circulating in the bloodstream that is not being carried in a cell. ctDNA derives either directly from the tumor or from circulating tumor cells.

REFERENCES

1. National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN). NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology: Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer. Version 3.2023. https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/nscl.pdf.