

# Revised guidelines allow BRCA testing through multi-gene panels

[pages.azblue.com/Updated-guidelines-for-multi-gene-panel-testing---May-2021.html](https://pages.azblue.com/Updated-guidelines-for-multi-gene-panel-testing---May-2021.html)

[Sign in – Secure Provider Portal](#) 



eviCore recently updated the clinical guidelines for multi-syndrome multi-gene panel testing for breast cancer and other hereditary cancer syndromes. You can now order a panel test covering multiple genes for Blue Cross<sup>®</sup> Blue Shield<sup>®</sup> of Arizona (BCBSAZ) members who meet medical necessity criteria for testing in certain cancers.

Specifically, patients with breast cancer who are eligible for BRCA1/BRCA2 gene analysis may receive broader panel testing for a fuller assessment of their risks. In addition to the broader diagnostic scope, the multi-syndrome panel tests also help reduce costs for members who would benefit from BRCA testing.

[+ In This Issue](#)

[Listen to your peers and their patients tell how MAT for opioid use disorder changes lives](#)

## Science behind the updates

Next-generation sequencing (NGS) technology has made multiple gene sequencing more efficient and more frequently used. Now that we have learned more about the roles of different genes in hereditary cancer syndromes, we better understand the clinical value of testing for more genes in a panel.

eviCore shares more specific information related to hereditary breast cancer testing in the [Hereditary Cancer Syndrome Multigene Panels guideline](#).<sup>1</sup>

## Ordering BRCA panel tests

Based on the revised guidelines for patients who qualify for testing, you could consider a panel test that includes BRCA1 and BRCA2, and eight other genes: CDH1, MLH1, MSH2, MSH6, PALB2, PTEN, STIK11, and TP53 (CPT<sup>®</sup> code 81432). Both this and the single BRCA1/BRCA2 test (code 81162) will still require prior authorization to ensure the patient meets criteria for BRCA testing.

## Get more information

---

For more information, review the eviCore clinical guidelines via the [BCBSAZ resource page](#) on the eviCore website. Go to the “Solution Resources” tab and select the appropriate specialty program to view or download coding and clinical resources.

---

eviCore healthcare<sup>®</sup> is a separate, independent company contracted with BCBSAZ to provide utilization management services to BCBSAZ providers and members. eviCore healthcare is a registered service mark of CareCore National, LLC.

CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) codes and modifiers are ©2021 American Medical Association. All rights reserved. CPT is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association.

<sup>1</sup>Source: eviCore Lab Management Guidelines, “[Hereditary Cancer Syndrome Multigene Panels](#),” MOL.TS.182.AZ, v1.0.2021; pages 8-10

---

In This Issue:

---