

CLIENT FOCUS



**SOUTHEASTERN
PATHOLOGY**

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IMPORTANT UPDATE:

AETNA MAKES CHANGES TO CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING AND DIAGNOSIS CLINICAL POLICY

In April 2013, Aetna updated its Cervical Cancer Screening and Diagnosis clinical policy to only allow ROUTINE Pap smear screenings for female members who are 21 years old and older.

Exception: Aetna continues to allow a screening Pap smear for females under age 21 that have a diagnosis of cervical dysplasia, cervical cancer, DES exposure, HIV infection, or are classified as immuno-compromised women.

- They will allow for testing for HPV in conjunction with a ROUTINE SCREENING Pap for females ages 30 and older. If a female has negative/normal results on both tests then they will only cover these tests every 3 years.
- They do allow for HPV 16/18 on patients 21 and older who have had an ASCUS Pap with Positive HPV results.
- They do *NOT* consider Pap smear screening medically necessary for women who have undergone complete/total hysterectomy for benign disease (and the cervix is absent).

Aetna's policy change aligns with those of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, American College of Gynecologists (ACOG), and other leading medical societies that recently raised their guidelines to age 21.

SEP strives to keep you and your patients happy. So please be aware of these policy changes when filling out requisitions. SEP appreciates your help and cooperation as we adapt to these policy changes.

You can view the entire Aetna policy here:

http://www.aetna.com/cpb/medical/data/400_499/0443.html

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