
INDEPENDENT DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITY (IDTF) PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Below is a list of the performance standards that an IDTF must meet in order to obtain or maintain their Medicare billing privileges. These standards, in their entirety, can be found in 42 C.F.R section 410.33(g) and are effective on January 1, 2007.

1. Operate its business in compliance with all applicable Federal and State licensure and regulatory requirements for the health and safety of patients.
2. Provide complete and accurate information on its enrollment application. Any change in enrollment information must be reported to the designated fee-for-service contractor on the Medicare enrollment application within 30 calendar days of the change.
3. Maintain a physical facility on an appropriate site. For the purposes of this standard, a post office box or commercial mail box is not considered a physical facility. The physical facility, including mobile units, must contain space for equipment appropriate to the services designated on the enrollment application, facilities for hand washing, adequate patient privacy accommodations, and the storage of both business records and current medical records within the office setting of the IDTF, or IDTF home office, not within the actual mobile unit.
4. Have all applicable diagnostic testing equipment available at the physical site excluding portable diagnostic testing equipment. A catalog of portable diagnostic equipment, including diagnostic testing equipment serial numbers, must be maintained at the physical site. In addition, portable diagnostic testing equipment must be available for inspection within two business days of a CMS inspection request. The IDTF must maintain a current inventory of the diagnostic testing equipment, including serial and registration numbers, provide this information to the designated fee-for-service contractor upon request, and notify the contractor of any changes in equipment within 90 days.
5. Maintain a primary business phone under the name of the designated business. The primary business phone must be located at the designated site of the business, or within the home office of the mobile IDTF units. The telephone number or toll free numbers must be available in a local directory and through directory assistance.
6. Have a comprehensive liability insurance policy of at least \$300,000 per location that covers both the place of business and all customers and employees of the IDTF. The policy must be carried by a non-relative owned company.
7. Agree not to directly solicit patients, which include, but is not limited to, a prohibition on telephone, computer, or in-person contacts. The IDTF must accept only those patients referred for diagnostic testing by an attending physician, who is furnishing a consultation or treating a beneficiary for a specific medical problem and who uses the results in the management of the beneficiary's specific medical problem. Nonphysician practitioners may order tests as set forth in §410.32(a)(3).

8. Answer beneficiaries' questions and respond to their complaints.
9. Openly post these standards for review by patients and the public.
10. Disclose to the government any person having ownership, financial, or control interest or any other legal interest in the supplier at the time of enrollment or within 30 days of a change.
11. Have its testing equipment calibrated and maintained per equipment instructions and in compliance with applicable manufacturers suggested maintenance and calibration standards.
12. Have technical staff on duty with the appropriate credentials to perform tests. The IDTF must be able to produce the applicable Federal or State licenses or certifications of the individuals performing these services.
13. Have proper medical record storage and be able to retrieve medical records upon request from CMS or its fee-for-service contractor within 2 business days.
14. Permit CMS, including its agents, or its designated fee-for-service contractors, to conduct unannounced, on-site inspections to confirm the IDTF's compliance with these standards. The IDTF must be accessible during regular business hours to CMS and beneficiaries and must maintain a visible sign posting the normal business hours of the IDTF.