BlueCross BlueShield Federal Employee Program.

FEP 2.04.62 Multimarker Serum Testing Related to Ovarian Cancer

Effective Date: April 15, 2018

Related Policies:
2.04.66 Serum Biomarker Human Epididymis Protein 4

Multimarker Serum Testing Related to Ovarian Cancer

Description

A variety of serum biomarkers have been studied for their association with ovarian cancer. Of particular interest have been tests that integrate results from multiple analytes into a risk score to predict the presence of disease. Three tests based on this principle, OVA1, Overa (the second-generation OVA1 test), and ROMA have been cleared by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The intended use of OVA1 and Overa is to use them as an aid to further assess whether malignancy is present—even when the physician's independent clinical and radiologic evaluation does not indicate malignancy. The intended use of ROMA is to use it as an aid, in conjunction with clinical assessment, to assess whether a premenopausal or a postmenopausal woman who presents with an ovarian adnexal mass is at high or low likelihood of finding malignancy on surgery.

FDA REGULATORY STATUS

In July 2009, the OVA1® test (Aspira Labs [Austin, TX]) was cleared for marketing by the FDA through the 510(k) process. OVA1® was designed as a tool to further assess the likelihood that malignancy is present when the physician's independent clinical and radiologic evaluation does not indicate malignancy.

In September 2011, the Risk of Ovarian Malignancy Algorithm (ROMA™ test; Fujirebio Diagnostics [Sequin, TX]) was cleared for marketing by the FDA through the 510(k) process. The intended use of ROMA™ is as an aid, in conjunction with clinical assessment, in assessing whether a premenopausal or postmenopausal woman who presents with an ovarian adnexal mass is at high or low likelihood of finding malignancy on surgery.

In March 2016, a second-generation test called Overa™ (also referred as next-generation OVA1®), in which 2 of the 5 biomarkers in OVA1® are replaced with human epididymis secretory protein 4 and follicle stimulating hormone, was cleared for marketing by the FDA through the 510(k) process. Similar to OVA1®, Overa™ generates a low or high risk of malignancy on a scale from 0 to 10.

Black Box Warning

In December 2011, the FDA amended its regulation for classifying ovarian adnexal mass assessment score test systems. The change required that off-label risks be highlighted using a black box warning. The warning is intended to mitigate the risk to health associated with off-label use as a screening test, stand-alone diagnostic test, or as a test to determine whether to proceed with surgery. Considering the history and currently unmet medical needs for ovarian cancer testing, the FDA concluded that there is a risk of off-label use of this device.[10] To address this risk, the FDA requires that manufacturers provide notice

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concerning the risks of off-label uses in the labeling, advertising, and promotional material of ovarian adnexal mass assessment score test systems. Manufacturers must address the following risks:

- Women without adnexal pelvic masses (ie, for cancer "screening") are not part of the intended use population for the ovarian adnexal mass assessment score test systems. Public health risks associated with false-positive results for ovarian cancer screening tests are well described in the medical literature and include morbidity or mortality associated with unneeded testing and surgery. The risk from false-negative screening results also includes morbidity and mortality due to failure to detect and treat ovarian malignancy.
- Analogous risks, adjusted for prevalence and types of disease, arise if test results are used to determine the need for surgery in patients who are known to have ovarian adnexal masses.
- If used outside the "OR" rule that is described in this special control guidance, results from ovarian adnexal mass assessment score test systems pose a risk for morbidity and mortality due to nonreferral for oncologic evaluation and treatment.

POLICY STATEMENT

All uses of the OVA1, Overa, and ROMA tests are **investigational**, including but not limited to:

a. preoperative evaluation of adnexal masses to triage for malignancy, or
b. screening for ovarian cancer, or
c. selecting patients for surgery for an adnexal mass, or
d. evaluation of patients with clinical or radiologic evidence of malignancy, or
e. evaluation of patients with nonspecific signs or symptoms suggesting possible malignancy, or
f. postoperative testing and monitoring to assess surgical outcome and/or to detect recurrent malignant disease following treatment.

POLICY GUIDELINES

OVA1, Overa, and ROMA tests are combinations of several separate lab tests and involve proprietary algorithms for determining risk (ie, what CPT calls multianalyte assays with algorithmic analyses [MAAAs]).

GENETIC COUNSELING

Genetic counseling is primarily aimed at patients who are at risk for inherited disorders, and experts recommend formal genetic counseling in most cases when genetic testing for an inherited condition is considered. The interpretation of the results of genetic tests and the understanding of risk factors can be very difficult and complex. Therefore, genetic counseling will assist individuals in understanding the possible benefits and harms of genetic testing, including the possible impact of the information on the individual's family. Genetic counseling may alter the utilization of genetic testing substantially and may reduce inappropriate testing. Genetic counseling should be performed by an individual with experience and expertise in genetic medicine and genetic testing methods.

BENEFIT APPLICATION

Screening (other than the preventive services listed in the brochure) is not covered. Please see Section 6 General exclusions.

Benefits are available for specialized diagnostic genetic testing when it is medically necessary to diagnose and/or manage a patient's existing medical condition. Benefits are not provided for genetic panels when some or all of the tests included in the panel are not covered, are experimental or investigational, or are not medically necessary.

Experimental or investigational procedures, treatments, drugs, or devices are not covered (See General Exclusion Section of brochure).

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RATIONALE

Summary of Evidence

For individuals who have adnexal mass(es) undergoing surgery for possible ovarian cancer who receive multimarker serum testing with clinical assessment preoperatively to assess ovarian cancer risk, the evidence includes studies assessing the technical performance and diagnostic accuracy. Relevant outcomes are overall survival and test accuracy. OVA1 and Overa are intended for use in patients for whom clinical assessment does not indicate cancer. When used in this manner, sensitivity for ovarian malignancy was 92% and specificity was 42% with OVA1; with Overa, malignancy was 94% and specificity was 65%. ROMA is intended for use with clinical assessment, but no specific method has been defined. One study, which used clinical assessment and ROMA results, showed a sensitivity of 90% and specificity of 67%. However, there is no direct evidence in terms of assessing patient outcomes based on the use of such testing prior to undergoing surgery. Moreover, it is uncertain whether discrimination is sufficient to alter decision making based on clinical assessment alone and, therefore, it is uncertain whether patients will find the testing to be of meaningful benefit. Thus, the chain of evidence supporting improved outcomes is incomplete. The evidence is insufficient to determine the effects of the technology on health outcomes.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Practice Guidelines and Position Statements

American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

The American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) addressed the use of the OVA1 test in its 2011 guidelines on the role of the obstetrician-gynecologist in the early detection of epithelial ovarian cancer.[25] In 2013, the Society for Gynecologic Oncology endorsed these ACOG guidelines.[26] This ACOG document included the following comments, which were not specific guidelines about the use of the test:

- The OVA1 test “appears to improve the predictability of ovarian cancer in women with pelvic masses.”
- “This is not a screening test, but it may be useful for evaluating women with a pelvic mass.”
- “Clinical utility is not yet established.”

Further, in 2016, an ACOG Practice Bulletin addressed the evaluation and management of adnexal masses makes a level B recommendation (based on limited or inconsistent scientific evidence) that consultation with or referral to a gynecologic oncologist is recommended for premenopausal or postmenopausal with an elevated score on a formal risk assessment test such as the multivariate index assay, risk of malignancy index, or the Risk of Ovarian Malignancy Algorithm, or one of the ultrasound-based scoring systems from the International Ovarian Tumor Analysis group.[27]

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence issued guidance in 2011 on the identification and management of ovarian cancer.[28] This guidance is currently being updated and is under review.

National Comprehensive Cancer Network

National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) guidelines on ovarian cancer (v.4.2017) include the following statement[29]:

> “It has been suggested that specific biomarkers (serum HE4 [human epididymis secretory protein 4] and CA-125 [cancer antigen 125]) along with an algorithm (Risk of Ovarian Malignancy Algorithm [ROMA]) may be useful for determining whether a pelvic mass is malignant or benign. The FDA [Food and Drug Administration] has approved the use of HE4 and CA-125 for estimating the risk of ovarian

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cancer in women with a pelvic mass. Currently, the NCCN Panel does not recommend the use of these biomarkers for determining the status of an undiagnosed pelvic mass."

Regarding the OVA1 test, NCCN guidelines state:

"The OVA1 test uses 5 markers (including transthyretin, apolipoprotein A1, transferrin, beta-2 microglobulin, and CA-125) to assess who should undergo surgery by an experienced gynecologic oncologist and who can have surgery in the community…. Based on data documenting an increased survival, NCCN Guidelines Panel Members recommend that all patients should undergo surgery by an experienced gynecologic oncologist (category 1)."

U.S. Preventive Services Task Force Recommendations

In 2012, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommended against screening women for ovarian cancer (D recommendation).[30] The Task Force has not addressed multimarker serum testing related to ovarian cancer. The 2012 statement is currently in update.

Medicare National Coverage

There is no national coverage determination (NCD). In the absence of an NCD, coverage decisions are left to the discretion of local Medicare carriers.

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POLICY HISTORY

Date	Action	Description
December 2011	New Policy	
March 2013	Update Policy	Policy update with literature search, results of TEC assessment. References 7, 13, and 17-28 added, Policy statement changed to not medically necessary for pre-operative evaluation.
March 2014	Update Policy	Policy updated with literature search. References 14, 15 and 20 added; other references renumbered or removed. No change to policy statement. Title changed to Proteomic-based Testing Related to Ovarian Cancer.

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March 2015	Update Policy	Policy updated with literature review through September 25, 2014. References 1, 14, 18 and 24 added. Policy statement unchanged.
March 2018	Update Policy	Policy update with literature through October 16, 2017; references 1, 8-10, 12, 14, 16-21, and 27 were added. Policy statement changed with addition of the Overa test. Title changed to “Multimarker Serum Testing Related to Ovarian Cancer”

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