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## Defense Health Agency Communications and Public Affairs

### Military Health Tip

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#### Learn How TRICARE Covers Laboratory Services and Diagnostic Imaging

[Laboratory services](#) and [diagnostic imaging](#) are vital tools for maintaining your health. These tests can help you and your provider catch potential issues early, before they become serious problems. They can also help you monitor your health, if you have a chronic condition or other existing concern. TRICARE covers many of these services, including some as part of your [preventive health care](#) benefit, as described in Chapter 7, Section 2.1 of the TRICARE Policy Manual.

#### Why get laboratory tests?

Laboratory tests can reveal important information about your overall health. They can help:

- Detect diseases before symptoms appear
- Monitor existing health conditions
- Check if medications are working properly
- Provide a baseline for future comparisons

Many health conditions don't show symptoms in early stages. Regular laboratory services help identify these hidden problems when they're most treatable.

#### Which tests are covered?

TRICARE covers some of these tests as part of your preventive health benefit. Some common covered tests include (but aren't limited to):

- [Blood lead testing](#) (for children between 6 months and 6 years old)
- [Cholesterol screening](#)
- [Cardiovascular screening](#)

Has your provider ordered [diagnostic imaging](#)? TRICARE covers many of these services when medically necessary. These include (but aren't limited to):

- [Magnetic resonance imaging, or MRI](#)
- [Computerized tomography, or CT scans](#)
- [X-rays](#) (including portable X-ray services)
- [Bone density studies](#)

Some specialized tests or imaging may require [referrals](#), as detailed in the [TRICARE Choices in the United States Handbook](#).

#### How to view your results

Do you get care at a [military hospital or clinic](#)? You can view your lab results through the [MHS GENESIS Patient Portal](#).

Want to access your test results online? Follow these steps:

1. Log in to the [MHS GENESIS Patient Portal](#) using your Common Access Card, DS Logon, or Personal Identity Verification card.
2. Click the "Health Record" button at the top of the page.
3. For lab results, select "Results and Measurements" from the left menu.
4. For radiology or pathology results, select "Clinical Reports" from the left menu.
5. Choose a report type from the dropdown menu.

Laboratory services and diagnostic testing are powerful tools for monitoring your overall health. Take advantage of your TRICARE benefit and the convenience of the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal to stay on top of your health.