

Understanding Your Biopsy Billing

What You Should Know

If you have any questions please contact our billing department toll-free at 1-866-630-9882.

Who diagnoses my biopsy?

After your skin sample arrives at the lab, it is processed and placed on a glass slide by highly trained lab technicians using state-of-the-art equipment. A specialized physician called a dermatopathologist then examines your skin cells under a microscope to diagnose your condition. The dermatopathologist collaborates with your treating physician, PA, or NP to ensure you receive an accurate diagnosis and appropriate treatment plan.

Why is my biopsy sent to Forefront Laboratory?

Your dermatologist chose the Forefront laboratory given the dermatopathologist's expertise, strong supporting technical team, and state-of-the-art lab equipment. In addition, your dermatologist has direct access to the Forefront laboratory team, which allows them to provide additional information to aid your diagnosis and discuss your specific results before communicating them to you. Finally, the Forefront dermatopathologists have access to your electronic medical record, given they are part of Forefront Dermatology. In many cases, your prior history can be critical to providing the best possible diagnosis. Forefront is the only laboratory that would have access to your electronic medical record.

Dermatopathologist names you may see on your bill:

- Kelli Hutchens, MD
- Ling Xia, MD
- Will Patino, MD
- John Pujals, MD
- Brent Weed, MD
- Douglas Hansen, MD
- K. Mireille Chae, MD
- Solomon Shockman, MD
- Charles Schultz, MD
- Bruce Leckey, DO
- Diane Perkins, MD
- Brandon Zelman, DO
- Israel Kasago, MD
- Reeba Prince, MD
- Olaoluwa Bode-Omoleye, MD
- Eduardo Torre, MD

Charges on your bill



Your local **dermatologist or other provider charges** for the evaluation and removal of the tissue to be examined.



Depending on your insurance, each **lab charge** will be displayed either in two parts (technical and professional components) or globally (single component). Whether billed in separate components or globally, your cost is the same.

- **Technical Component -displayed as TC (example: 88305TC).** The preparation of your tissue on a slide for evaluation is called the **technical component**. You will see the name of our Laboratory Medical Director, Kelli Hutchens, MD, on your billing statement. Dr. Hutchens oversees the process to ensure the quality and integrity of the specimen
- **Professional Component-displayed as PC (example: 88305 PC).** The dermatopathologist's evaluation and diagnosis of your tissue is called the **professional component**.
- **Global Charge (example: 88305).** A **global charge** includes both the professional and technical components in a single charge.



Additional charges or bills (bill code examples: 88312, 88313, 88341, 88342, 88344, 88346, 88350). Occasionally **additional charges** may occur if the dermatopathologist must order additional in-house tests to render a final diagnosis. On very rare occasions, and in the interest of providing the highest quality care for you, the dermatopathologists may send your case out to be reviewed by another facility or doctor who is nationally or world-renowned for specialized molecular testing or diagnostic expertise in a specific disease subspecialty.