

Distribution Date: July 1, 2020

The following medical protocol updates include information on protocols that have undergone an annual review over the last several months, or an additional review in order to make changes. The annual review may have resulted in a revision to the guidelines or no changes at all. One new protocol has been added and one has been archived.

Please note that portions of this protocol update may not pertain to the members to whom you provide care.

Protocol Revision Summary

The effective date of these changes is August 1, 2020, unless otherwise indicated:

Biventricular Pacemakers (Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy) for the Treatment of Heart Failure

Change:

- An investigational policy statement for cardiac resynchronization therapy was added.

Functional Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation

Change:

- An additional investigational policy statement was added for devices for exercise in patients with spinal cord injury.

General Approach to Genetic Testing

Change:

- In the policy guidelines section, types of genetic tests and clinical utility criteria section were added.

Genetic Testing for Hereditary Breast, Ovarian Cancer Syndrome and Other High-Risk Cancers (Formerly Genetic Testing for Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Syndrome)

Medicare Advantage Changes:

- A not medically necessary policy statement was deleted.
- A medically necessary policy statement was added for Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) when criteria are met.

Genetic Testing for Leukemia and Lymphoma

Changes:

- A medically necessary policy statement was revised for genetic testing in patients with suspected myelofibrosis or essential thrombocythemia.
- A statement that addresses bone marrow biopsy was added.

Interspinous and Interbody Fixation (Fusion) Devices (Formerly Interspinous Fixation [Fusion] Devices)

Change:

- A medically necessary policy statement was added for Interbody PEEK cages.
- Effective date is May 1, 2020.

KRAS, NRAS, BRAF Variant Analysis (Including Liquid Biopsy) in Metastatic Colorectal Cancer

Medicare Advantage Change:

- A not medically necessary policy statement was added for carcinoid tumors in the gastrointestinal tract.

Microprocessor-Controlled Protheses for the Lower Limb

Change:

- The word “amputee” is changed to “individuals with transfemoral amputation” in the medically necessary policy statement.

Myocardial Strain Imaging

Change:

- An investigational policy statement that addresses cardiotoxicity was added.

Viscocalostomy and Canaloplasty

Changes:

- A medically necessary policy statement for canaloplasty was revised.
- In the policy guidelines section, a statement for canaloplasty was added.

New Protocol

The effective date of this new protocol is August 1, 2020:

Eyelid Thermal Pulsation for the Treatment of Dry Eye Syndrome

- The position of the protocol is investigational.
- This protocol considers this test or procedure investigational. If the physician feels this service is medically necessary, preauthorization is recommended.

Protocols Reviewed Without Change

Previous effective dates indicated remain accurate for the following:

- Allogeneic Pancreas Transplant
- Ambulatory Event Monitors and Mobile Cardiac Outpatient Telemetry
- Biofeedback as a Treatment of Chronic Pain
- Biofeedback as a Treatment of Headache
- Blepharoplasty
- Cardiac Rehabilitation in the Outpatient Setting
- Catheter Ablation as Treatment for Atrial Fibrillation
- Cognitive Rehabilitation
- Cooling Devices Used in the Outpatient Setting
- Deep Brain Stimulation
- Endovascular Therapies for Extracranial Vertebral Artery Disease
- Extracranial Carotid Artery Stenting
- Genetic Testing for Duchenne and Becker Muscular Dystrophy
- Genetic Testing for Hereditary Hemochromatosis
- Genetic Testing for Idiopathic Dilated Cardiomyopathy
- Genetic Testing for Marfan Syndrome, Thoracic Aortic Aneurysms and Dissections, and Related Disorders

- Genetic Testing for PTEN Hamartoma Tumor Syndrome
- Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation for Acute Myeloid Leukemia
- Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation for Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia/Small Lymphocytic Lymphoma
- Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation for Non-Hodgkin Lymphomas
- Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation for Solid Tumors of Childhood
- Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation in the Treatment of Germ Cell Tumors
- Injectable Bulking Agents for the Treatment of Urinary and Fecal Incontinence
- Intraoperative Neurophysiologic Monitoring
- Islet Transplantation
- KIF6 Genotyping for Predicting Cardiovascular Risk and/or Effectiveness of Statin Therapy
- Laboratory and Genetic Testing for Use of 5-Fluorouracil in Patients With Cancer
- Manipulation Under Anesthesia
- Myoelectric Prosthetic and Orthotic Components for the Upper Limb
- Negative Pressure Wound Therapy in the Outpatient Setting
- Neurofeedback
- Oncologic Applications of Photodynamic Therapy, Including Barrett Esophagus
- Optical Coherence Tomography of the Anterior Eye Segment
- Orthognathic Surgery
- Orthopedic Applications of Platelet-Rich Plasma
- Oscillatory Devices for the Treatment of Cystic Fibrosis and Other Respiratory Conditions
- Pelvic Floor Stimulation as a Treatment of Urinary and Fecal Incontinence
- Photodynamic Therapy for Choroidal Neovascularization
- Small Bowel/Liver and Multivisceral Transplant
- Targeted Phototherapy and Psoralen with Ultraviolet A for Vitiligo
- Technology Assessment and Medically Necessary Services (Formerly Technology Assessment)
- Temporomandibular Joint Dysfunction
- Thermography
- Total Artificial Hearts and Implantable Ventricular Assist Devices
- Treatment of Tinnitus
- Treatment of Varicose Veins/Venous Insufficiency
- Vestibular Function Testing
- Wearable Cardioverter Defibrillators

Deleted Protocol

The following protocol is archived effective March 1, 2020:

- Buprenorphine Implant for Treatment of Opioid Dependence

The above are brief summaries. Please refer to the protocols posted on our provider website for the details and new protocols that affect your practice. If you need help finding a specific protocol update, please contact the Provider Service department.