

Medical Policy

Biofeedback in an Outpatient Setting to Treat Incontinence or Constipation

Policy Number: OCA 3.969

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Product Applicability

All Plan⁺ Products

WellSense Health Plan

- NH Medicaid
- NH Medicare Advantage

Boston Medical Center HealthNet Plan

- MassHealth
- Qualified Health Plans/ConnectorCare/Employer Choice Direct
- Senior Care Options

⁺ Note: Disclaimer and audit information is located at the end of this document.

Policy Summary

The Plan considers biofeedback for the treatment of urinary incontinence (stress, urgency, mixed, or overflow urinary incontinence), fecal incontinence, and/or dyssynergia-type constipation to be **medically necessary** when criteria are met. Biofeedback is experimental and investigational or NOT medically necessary for all other indications, including but not limited to the treatment of another voiding dysfunction and/or defecatory dysfunction (e.g., idiopathic constipation, total incontinence). Plan prior authorization is required. **An additional Plan prior authorization is NOT required for biofeedback provided in an inpatient setting when the inpatient admission has been authorized by the Plan.**

Clinical Criteria

Biofeedback is considered medically necessary for the treatment of urinary incontinence (stress, urgency, mixed, or overflow urinary incontinence), fecal incontinence, and/or dyssynergia-type constipation for a Plan member (regardless of gender) when provided in the outpatient setting when ALL of the following criteria are met and documented in the member's medical record (including

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documentation of urodynamic test results, if performed and applicable), as specified below in items 1 through 4:

1. The member has failed a documented trial of four (4) weeks of pelvic muscle exercise (PME) training with no significant improvement in symptoms; AND
2. The member is cognitively intact; AND
3. ONE (1) of the following criteria is met for the Plan member, as specified below in items a through c:
 - a. The member is six (6) years of age or older on the date of service with stress, urgency, mixed, or overflow urinary incontinence; OR
 - b. The member is six (6) years of age or older on the date of service with fecal incontinence when the member has some degree of rectal sensation and the ability to contract the sphincter voluntarily; OR
 - c. The member is 18 years of age or older on the date of service with chronic dyssynergic-type constipation and failed three (3) months of conventional treatment that includes the use of laxatives, dietary changes (e.g., high-fiber diet), and attempting defecation after meals; AND
4. Biofeedback training will be used to manage the member's symptom(s) for **up to four (4) sessions**.

Limitations and Exclusions

1. The Plan considers the use of biofeedback to be experimental or investigational or NOT medically when criteria in the Clinical Criteria section are NOT met due to limited evidence documenting the clinical utility and clinical validity of the treatment for other indications.
2. Home use of biofeedback therapy is considered experimental or investigational or NOT medically necessary due to limited evidence documenting the clinical utility and clinical validity of the treatment in a home setting.

Variations

The Plan uses guidance from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for medical necessity and coverage determinations for Senior Care Options (SCO) members and WellSense Medicare Advantage HMO members, including but not limited to national coverage determinations (NCDs), local coverage determinations (LCDs), local coverage articles (LCAs), and documentation included in Medicare manuals. At the time of the Plan's most recent policy review, CMS NCD 30.1.1 includes medically necessary indications for biofeedback therapy rendered by a practitioner in an office or other facility setting for the treatment of urinary incontinence. Home use of biofeedback therapy is not

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covered by CMS. No guideline was found related to the treatment of a defecatory dysfunction (e.g., idiopathic constipation, fecal incontinence, dyssynergic defecation). Verify CMS guidelines in effect on the date of the prior authorization request. When there is no guidance from CMS for the requested service, Plan-adopted clinical review criteria will be used to determine the medical necessity of the service.

Applicable Coding

The Plan uses and adopts up-to-date Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes from the American Medical Association (AMA), International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th revision (ICD-10) diagnosis codes developed by the World Health Organization and adapted in the United States by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) of the Centers for Disease Control under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the Health Care Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) established and maintained by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Since the AMA, NCHS, and CMS may update codes more frequently or at different intervals than Plan policy updates, the list of applicable codes included in this Plan policy is for informational purposes only, may not be all inclusive, and is subject to change without prior notification. Whether a code is listed in the Applicable Coding section of this Plan policy does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement. Providers are responsible for reporting all services using the most up-to-date industry-standard procedure and diagnosis codes as published by the AMA, NCHS, and CMS at the time of the service.

Providers are responsible for obtaining prior authorization for the services specified in the Clinical Criteria and Limitations and Exclusions sections of this Plan policy, even if an applicable code appropriately describing the service that is the subject of this Plan policy is not included in this Applicable Coding section. Review the Plan’s reimbursement policies for Plan billing guidelines. Coverage for services is subject to benefit eligibility under the member’s benefit plan in effect at the time of the service. Member benefit documents are available at the following websites: www.bmchp.org for BMC HealthNet Plan members, www.SeniorsGetMore.org for Senior Care Options members, www.wellsense.org for WellSense New Hampshire Medicaid members, and www.WellSense.org/Medicare for WellSense Medicare Advantage HMO members.

CPT Codes	Description: Codes Covered When Medically Necessary
90901	Biofeedback training by any modality
90912	Biofeedback training, perineal muscles, anorectal or urethral sphincter, including EMG and/or manometry, when performed; initial 15 minutes of one-on-one physician or other qualified health care professional contact with the patient
90913	Biofeedback training, perineal muscles, anorectal or urethral sphincter, including EMG and/or manometry, when performed; each additional 15 minutes of one-on-one physician or other qualified health care professional contact with the patient (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
HCPCS Code	Description: Code Covered When Medically Necessary
E0746	Electromyography (EMG), biofeedback device

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Policy History

Original Approval Date	Original Effective Date* and Version Number	Policy Owner	Original Policy Approved by
Regulatory Approval: N/A Internal Approval: 09/09/08: Medical Policy, Criteria, and Technology Assessment Committee (MPCTAC) 09/30/08: Utilization Management Committee (UMC) 10/22/08: Quality Improvement Committee (QIC)	01/01/09 Version 1	Medical Policy Manager as Chair of MPCTAC	MPCTAC, QIC, and UMC

*Effective Date for the BMC HealthNet Plan Commercial Product: 01/01/12

*Effective Date for the WellSense New Hampshire Medicaid Product: 01/01/13

*Effective Date for the Senior Care Options Product: 01/01/16

*Effective Date for the WellSense Medicare Advantage HMO Product: 01/01/22

Policy title was *Biofeedback for Urinary Incontinence, Outpatient* from 01/01/09 to 01/31/17.

Policy title changed to *Biofeedback for Incontinence, Outpatient* from 02/01/17 to 10/31/17.

Policy title was *Biofeedback in an Outpatient Setting to Treat Bladder and/or Bowel Dysfunction (Including Incontinence)* from 11/01/17 to 11/30/19.

Biofeedback in an Outpatient Setting to Treat Incontinence or Constipation

[†] Plan refers to Boston Medical Center Health Plan, Inc. and its affiliates and subsidiaries offering health coverage plans to enrolled members. The Plan operates in Massachusetts under the trade name Boston Medical Center HealthNet Plan and in other states under the trade name WellSense Health Plan.

As of 12/01/19, the policy title is *Biofeedback in an Outpatient Setting to Treat Incontinence or Constipation*.

Policy Revisions History			
Review Date	Summary of Revisions	Revision Effective Date and Version Number	Approved by
09/22/09	Updated coding (removed CPT 90875 and 90876 from this policy), no changes to clinical criteria.	Version 2	09/22/09: MPCTAC 10/28/09: QIC
10/01/10	No changes to criteria, updated references, codes and template.	Version 3	10/20/10: MPCTAC 11/22/10: QIC
10/01/11	No criteria changes, updated references, and added commercial language.	Version 4	10/19/11: MPCTAC 11/29/11: QIC
07/01/12	Off cycle review for Well Sense Health Plan, revised Summary statement, reformatted Clinical Guideline Statement, deleted diagnosis codes from code list, deleted Massachusetts contract references.	Version 5	08/03/12: MPCTAC 09/05/12: QIC
12/01/12	Updated Summary and Description of Item or Service sections, referenced Plan's <i>Experimental and Investigational Treatment and Medically Necessary</i> policies, updated applicable code list and deleted diagnosis codes, revised language in Applicable Coding section, updated references. Added limitations related to home use. Revised title to specify an outpatient setting for the service. Changed name of policy category from "Clinical Coverage Guidelines" to "Medical Policy."	Version 6	12/10/12: MPCTAC 01/31/13: QIC
12/01/13	Review for effective date 02/01/14. Updated Description of Service and References. Revised first paragraph in Medical Policy Statement section without changing criteria. Added definition for urodynamic testing.	02/01/14 Version 7	12/18/13: MPCTAC 01/21/14: QIC
12/01/14	Review for effective date 02/01/15. Updated references.	02/01/15 Version 8	12/17/14: MPCTAC 01/14/15: QIC
10/01/15	Review for effective date 12/01/15. Updated list of applicable products and corresponding notes. Updated References and Definitions sections.	12/01/15 Version 9	10/21/15: MPCTAC 11/11/15: QIC
11/25/15	Review for effective date 01/01/16.	01/01/16	11/25/15: MPCTAC

Biofeedback in an Outpatient Setting to Treat Incontinence or Constipation

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Policy Revisions History

	Revised language in the Applicable Coding section.	Version 10	(electronic vote) 12/09/15: QIC
10/01/16	Review for effective date 02/01/17. Revised policy title. Updated Summary, Definitions, Clinical Background Information, References, and Reference to Applicable Laws and Regulations sections. Revised criteria in the Medical Policy Statement and Limitations section (by including an age criterion).	02/01/17 Version 11	10/19/16: MPCTAC 11/09/16: QIC
10/01/17	Review for effective date 11/01/17. Updated the Policy Summary, Description of Item or Service, Definitions, Clinical Background Information, and References sections. Revised policy title. Administrative changes made to the Medical Policy Statement and Limitations sections.	11/01/17 Version 12	10/18/17: MPCTAC
10/01/18	Review for effective date 01/01/19. Administrative changes made to the Definitions, References and Other Applicable Policies sections. Criteria updated in the Medical Policy Statement and Limitations sections.	01/01/19 Version 13	10/17/18: MPCTAC
09/01/19	Review for effective date 12/01/19. Administrative changes made to the Policy Summary, Description of Item or Service, Definitions, Clinical Background Information, References and Reference to Applicable Laws and Regulations sections. Criteria revised in the Medical Policy Statement and Limitations sections. Policy title revised.	12/01/19 Version 14	09/18/19: MPCTAC
12/01/19	Review for effective date 01/01/20. Industry-wide updates to codes included in the Applicable Coding section.	01/01/20 Version 15	Not applicable because industry-wide code changes.
09/01/20	Review for effective date 10/01/20. Administrative changes made to the References and Other Applicable Policies sections.	10/01/20 Version 16	09/16/20: MPCTAC
10/01/21	Review for effective date 01/01/22. Adopted new medical policy template; removed administrative sections, the Medical Policy Statement section	01/01/22 Version 17	10/20/21: MPCTAC

Biofeedback in an Outpatient Setting to Treat Incontinence or Constipation

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Policy Revisions History

	renamed the Clinical Criteria section, and the Limitations section renamed the Limitations and Exclusions section. Added WellSense Medicare Advantage HMO as an applicable product effective 01/01/22. Administrative changes made to the Policy Summary, Limitations and Exclusions, Applicable Coding, and References sections. Criteria revised in the Clinical Criteria section.		
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Next Review Date

09/01/22

Authorizing Entity

MPCTAC

Disclaimer Information:

Medical Policies are the Plan's guidelines for determining the medical necessity of certain services or supplies for purposes of determining coverage. These Policies may also describe when a service or supply is considered experimental or investigational, or cosmetic. In making coverage decisions, the Plan uses these guidelines and other Plan Policies, as well as the Member's benefit document, and when appropriate, coordinates with the Member's health care Providers to consider the individual Member's health care needs.

Plan Policies are developed in accordance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations, and accrediting organization standards (including NCQA). Medical Policies are also developed, as appropriate, with consideration of the medical necessity definitions in various Plan products, review of current literature, consultation with practicing Providers in the Plan's service area who are medical experts in the particular field, and adherence to FDA and other government agency policies. Applicable state or federal mandates, as well as the Member's benefit document, take precedence over these guidelines. Policies are reviewed and updated on an annual basis, or more frequently as needed. Treating providers are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of Members.

The use of this Policy is neither a guarantee of payment nor a final prediction of how a specific claim(s) will be adjudicated. Reimbursement is based on many factors, including member eligibility and benefits on the date of service; medical necessity; utilization management guidelines (when applicable); coordination of benefits; adherence with applicable Plan policies and procedures; clinical coding criteria; claim editing logic; and the applicable Plan – Provider agreement.