I. Policy: Magnetic Resonance (MR) Guided Ultrasound Ablation of Uterine Fibroids

II. Purpose/Objective:
To provide a policy of coverage regarding Magnetic Resonance (MR) Guided Ultrasound Ablation of Uterine Fibroids.

III. Responsibility:
A. Medical Directors
B. Medical Management Department

IV. Required Definitions
1. Attachment – a supporting document that is developed and maintained by the policy writer or department requiring/authoring the policy.
2. Exhibit – a supporting document developed and maintained in a department other than the department requiring/authoring the policy.
3. Devised – the date the policy was implemented.
4. Revised – the date of every revision to the policy, including typographical and grammatical changes.
5. Reviewed – the date documenting the annual review if the policy has no revisions necessary.

V. Additional Definitions
Medical Necessity or Medically Necessary means Covered Services rendered by a Health Care Provider that the Plan determines are:

a. appropriate for the symptoms and diagnosis or treatment of the Member's condition, illness, disease or injury;
b. provided for the diagnosis, and the direct care and treatment of the Member's condition, illness disease or injury;
c. in accordance with current standards of good medical treatment practiced by the general medical community;
d. not primarily for the convenience of the Member, or the Member's Health Care Provider; and
   the most appropriate source or level of service that can safely be provided to the Member. When applied to hospitalization, this further means that the Member requires acute care as an inpatient due to the nature of the services rendered or the Member's condition, and the Member cannot receive safe or adequate care as an outpatient.

Medicaid Business Segment
Medical Necessity shall mean a service or benefit that is compensable under the Medical Assistance Program and if it meets any one of the following standards:
   (i) the service or benefit will, or is reasonably expected to, prevent the onset of an illness, condition or disability.
   (ii) the service or benefit will, or is reasonably expected to, reduce or ameliorate the physical, mental or development effects of an illness, condition, injury or disability.
(iii) the service or benefit will assist the Member to achieve or maintain maximum functional capacity in performing daily activities, taking into account both the functional capacity of the Member and those functional capacities that are appropriate for members of the same age.

DESCRIPTION:
Uterine fibroids (leiomyomata) are benign tumors commonly found during the reproductive years. Magnetic Resonance Focused Ultrasound therapy is a non-invasive treatment that proposes to treat symptomatic fibroids by applying a precise ultrasound beam to the tumor causing tissue destruction by thermal injury, while preserving adjacent structures. This procedure can be done as an outpatient in an MRI suite with no anesthesia or conscious sedation. One system, Exblate 2000®, has received marketing approval from the Food and Drug Administration.

EXCLUSIONS: The Plan does NOT provide coverage for MR Ultrasound of Uterine Ablations because it is considered experimental, investigational or unproven. Although the device is FDA approved, there is insufficient evidence in the peer-reviewed published medical literature to establish the effectiveness of this treatment on health outcomes when compared to established treatments or technologies

Note: A complete description of the process by which a given technology or service is evaluated and determined to be experimental, investigational or unproven services is outlined in MP 15 - Experimental Investigational or Unproven Services or Treatment

CODING ASSOCIATED WITH: MR Ultrasound of Uterine Ablations
The following codes are included below for informational purposes and may not be all inclusive. Inclusion of a procedure or device code(s) does not constitute or imply coverage nor does it imply or guarantee provider reimbursement. Coverage is determined by the member specific benefit plan document and any applicable laws regarding coverage of specific services.

0071T Focused ultrasound ablation of uterine leimyomata, including MR guidance; total leiomyomata, including MR guidance; total leiomyomta volume less than 200 cc of tissue.

0072T Focused ultrasound ablation of uterine leimyomata, including MR guidance; total leiomyomata, including MR guidance; total leiomyomta volume greater or equal to 200 cc of tissue.

77022 Magnetic Resonance guidance for, and monitoring of, parenchymal tissue ablation

LINE OF BUSINESS:
Eligibility and contract specific benefits, limitations and/or exclusions will apply. Coverage statements found in the line of business specific benefit document will supersede this policy. For PA Medicaid Business segment, this policy applies as written.

REFERENCES:


Chen S. MRI-Guided focused ultrasound for the treatment of uterine fibroids (issues in emerging health technologies issue 70). Ottawa:Canadian Coordinating Office for Health Technology Assessments; 2005.


This policy will be revised as necessary and reviewed no less than annually.

Devised: 11/14/05
Revised: 11/06, 9/16 (Gender Language)
Reviewed: 11/07, 11/08, 10/09, 09/10, 9/11, 9/12, 9/13, 9/14, 9/15