

Policy: MP174

Section: Medical Benefit Policy

Subject: Exhaled Nitric Oxide for Asthma Management

I. Policy: Exhaled Nitric Oxide for Asthma Management

II. Purpose/Objective:

To provide a policy of coverage regarding Exhaled Nitric Oxide for Asthma Management

III. Responsibility:

- A. Medical Directors
- B. Medical Management

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
- e. 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:

Nitric Oxide (NO) is an important endogenous regulatory molecule widely distributed throughout the body that is a messenger in many different biological processes. In biological tissue, nitric oxide is highly reactive making a determination of the amount of NO very difficult. However, in the gas phase nitric oxide is relatively stable, permitting its measurement in exhaled air. Of greatest clinical interest is the role of NO as an inflammatory mediator, particularly in the management of eosinophilic asthma to determine the likelihood of steroid responsiveness in individuals with chronic symptoms suggestive of airway inflammation

INDICATIONS:

The measurement of exhaled nitric oxide may be considered medically necessary for the management of when all of the following criteria are met:

- Utilization is limited to Pulmonary or Allergy/Immunology specialists; and
- Diagnosis of eosinophilic asthma has been established or highly suspected

EXCLUSIONS:

The use of exhaled nitric oxide outside of the indications outlined in this policy is considered **experimental, investigational or unproven**, and therefore **NOT COVERED**. The Geisinger Technology Assessment Committee evaluated this technology and concluded that there is insufficient evidence in the peer-reviewed published medical literature to establish the effectiveness of this test on health outcomes for use outside of the indications outlined in this document, when compared to established tests 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 is outlined in MP 15 - Experimental Investigational or Unproven Services or Treatment.

CODING ASSOCIATED WITH: Exhaled Nitric Oxide for Asthma Management

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. Please note that per Medicare coverage rules, only specific CPT/HCPCS Codes may be covered for the Medicare Business Segment. Please consult the CMS website at www.cms.gov or the local Medicare Administrative Carrier (MAC) for more information on Medicare coverage and coding requirements.

95012 Nitric oxide expired gas determination

Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) © American Medical Association: Chicago, IL

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 Medicare, applicable LCD's and NCD's will supersede this policy. For PA Medicaid Business segment, this policy applies as written.

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

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Reviewed: 2/07, 2/08, 2/10 (refs), 3/11, 3/12, 3/13, 3/14; 3/15, 3/16, 3/17, 5/18, 5/19, 5/20

Geisinger Health Plan may refer collectively to health care coverage sponsors Geisinger Health Plan, Geisinger Quality Options, Inc., and Geisinger Indemnity Insurance Company, unless otherwise noted. Geisinger Health Plan is part of Geisinger, an integrated health care delivery and coverage organization.