Policy: MP142

Section: Medical Benefit Policy

Subject: Anodyne Infrared Therapy

I. Policy: Anodyne Infrared Therapy

II. Purpose/Objective:
To provide a policy of coverage regarding anodyne infrared therapy

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.
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: Anodyne Infrared Therapy (aka: Monochromatic Infrared energy (MIRE) Therapy) involves the use of a device to deliver monochromatic, near-infrared photo energy through contact with the skin. The energy is emitted by an array of super-luminous gallium aluminum arsenide diodes located on a flexible pad. The application of photo-energy is proposed to release nitric oxide from hemoglobin and other proteins which acts as a signaling molecule to relax smooth muscle in arteries, veins and lymph vessels.

EXCLUSIONS: The Plan does NOT provide coverage for Anodyne Infrared Therapy because it is considered experimental, investigational or unproven. 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 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.

NOTE: Infrared treatment is covered when medically necessary as a heat modality in a physical therapy regimen.

CODING ASSOCIATED WITH: Anodyne Infrared Therapy
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.

97139 Unlisted therapeutic procedure (specify)
97799 Unlisted physical medicine / rehabilitation service or procedure


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 supercede this policy. For PA Medicaid Business segment, this policy applies as written.

REFERENCES:

Tricenturion, DMERC A, L12873, Infrared heating Pad Systems.

Hayes Inc. MIRE Therapy (Monochromatic Infrared Energy) for Peripheral Neuropathy. April 6, 2018

Hayes Inc. MIRE Therapy (Monochromatic Infrared Energy) for Treatment of Wounds. April 6, 2018


Anodyne Therapy http://www.anodynetherapy.com/Professionals.htm

ECRI, HTAIS Hotline. Monochromatic Infrared Irradiation for the Treatment of Peripheral Neuropathy. 12/27/04


Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Infrared Therapy Devices (270.6)


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

Devised: 12/10/04

Revised: 12/05 (updated references); 12/06, 01/10 (keywords)

Reviewed: 12/07, 12/08, 1/11, 1/12, 1/13, 1/14 1/15, 1/16, 1/17, 12/17, 12/18