Policy: MP243

Section: Medical Benefit Policy

Subject: Anorectal Fistula Repair Using an Acellular Xenogeneic Plug

I. Policy: Anorectal Fistula Repair Using an Acellular Xenogeneic Plug

II. Purpose/Objective:

To provide a policy of coverage regarding Anorectal Fistula Repair Using an Acellular Xenogeneic Plug

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:** An anorectal fistula repair involving the placement into the fistula tract of an acellular xenogeneic or bioprosthetic (biodegradable) “plug” is a minimally invasive procedure and affords the surgeon a sphincter-sparing option. The plug is derived from porcine small intestinal mucosa (SIS), which is a rolled and tapered configuration. The plug spans the entire length of the fistula tract from the internal to the external opening and is sutured into place. The plug was developed to close the primary opening of the fistula tracts, without incising into the sphincter muscle, to allow healing from point of blockage to skin surface.

**FOR MEDICAID BUSINESS SEGMENT:**
Repair of anorectal fistula with plug may be considered as a program exception on a per-case basis.

**EXCLUSIONS:** The Plan considers biosynthetic fistula plugs, including plugs made of porcine small intestine submucosa or of synthetic material experimental, investigational, and unproven for all indications including, but not limited to, repair of anal and rectal fistulas. 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.

**CODING ASSOCIATED WITH:** Anorectal Fistula Repair Using an Acellular Xenogeneic Plug
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.

46707 Repair of anorectal fistula with plug (e.g., porcine small intestine mucosa [SIS])

C9364 Porcine implant, permacol, per square centimeter


**LINE OF BUSINESS:**
Eligibility and contract specific benefit 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

**REFERENCES:**


National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) (UK]). Closure of anal fistula using a suturable bioprosthetic plug: guidance. 2007. Note: does not specifically address either product.


UptoDate. Anorectal fistula: Clinical manifestations, diagnosis, and management principles, Oct. 2013


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

Devised: 04/2010

Revised: 10/16 (added coding), 9/17 (Added Medicaid Section)

Reviewed: 10/11, 10/12, 10/13, 10/14, 10/15, 9/18, 9/19