Geisinger

Geisinger Health Plan Policies and Procedure Manual

Policy: MP069

Section: Medical Benefit Policy

Subject: Ultrafiltration

Applicable Lines of Business

Commercial	**X**	**CHIP**	**X**
Medicare	**X**	**ACA**	**X**
Medicaid	**X**		

I. Policy: Ultrafiltration

II. Purpose/Objective:

To provide a policy of coverage regarding Ultrafiltration

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

Medically Necessary — A service, item, procedure, or level of care that is necessary for the proper treatment or management of an illness, injury, or disability is one that:

- Will, or is reasonably expected to, prevent the onset of an illness, condition, injury or disability.
- Will, or is reasonably expected to, reduce or ameliorate the physical, mental or developmental effects of an illness, condition, injury or disability.
    - 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:
Ultrafiltration therapy, also known as aquapheresis, is a method of removing excess plasma water as a treatment of decompensated heart failure. Blood is withdrawn and returned via the peripheral veins using a peristaltic pump. The blood passes through a filter that allows filtration of water and solutes of less than 50,000 daltons. This allows for rapid fluid removal while maintaining the electrolyte composition of the blood, maintaining heart rate and blood pressure.

INDICATIONS:
COMMERCIAL, MEDICARE and MEDICAID BUSINESS SEGMENT:

Ultrafiltration is considered medically necessary for the treatment of decompensated heart failure when:

- The member exhibits signs and symptoms of fluid overload; and
- Dyspnea with minimal exertion or at rest; and
- Diuretic resistance or inadequate response to maximized therapeutic dose or a dose approaching the maximum recommended daily dose without incremental improvement in diuresis.

EXCLUSIONS: The Plan does **NOT** provide coverage for Ultrafiltration therapy for the treatment of decompensated heart failure not meeting the criteria outlined above 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.**

Medicaid Business Segment:

Any requests for services that do not meet criteria set in the PARP may be evaluated on a case by case basis

CODING ASSOCIATED WITH: Ultrafiltration
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.***

CPT Codes:

90945	dialysis procedure other than hemodialysis with single physician evaluation
90947	dialysis procedure other than hemodialysis requiring repeated physician evaluations, with or without substantial revision of dialysis prescription
99356	prolonged physician service in the inpatient setting, requiring direct patient contact beyond the usual service; first hour
99357	each additional 30 minutes
37799	
90999	
0692T	Therapeutic ultrafiltration

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.

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

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