

MEDICAL POLICY

POLICY TITLE	PROCEDURES OF QUESTIONABLE CURRENT USEFULNESS
POLICY NUMBER	MP 4.009

CLINICAL BENEFIT	<input type="checkbox"/> MINIMIZE SAFETY RISK OR CONCERN. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MINIMIZE HARMFUL OR INEFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS. <input type="checkbox"/> ASSURE APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF CARE. <input type="checkbox"/> ASSURE APPROPRIATE DURATION OF SERVICE FOR INTERVENTIONS. <input type="checkbox"/> ASSURE THAT RECOMMENDED MEDICAL PREREQUISITES HAVE BEEN MET. <input type="checkbox"/> ASSURE APPROPRIATE SITE OF TREATMENT OR SERVICE.
Effective Date:	1/1/2025

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I. POLICY

Capital Blue Cross considers the following procedures and diagnostic lab tests to be of “Questionable Current Usefulness” and are considered obsolete or discredited and **not medically necessary** *unless medical necessity can be established on an individual basis.* (See definitions.)

The following list is **not** an all-inclusive list. Capital Blue Cross will continually add any obsolete or discredited procedures or diagnostic tests:

Medical Policy Service List	Obsolete (Outdated)/ Discredited	Rationale	Reference(s)
Surgical connection of extracranial and intracranial arteries 61711	Discredited when used to treat or prevent cerebral ischemia in patients with arteriosclerotic disease in carotid and middle cerebral arteries	The Intra/Extracranial Anastomosis performed on patients to treat or prevent cerebral ischemia in patients with arteriosclerotic disease in the carotid and middle cerebral arteries was found to have no benefit over medical therapy for preventing recurrent strokes.	<i>Powers WJ, Clarke WR, Grubb RL et al. Extracranial-Intracranial Bypass Surgery for Stroke Prevention in Hemodynamic Cerebral Ischemia: The Carotid Occlusion Surgery Study Randomized Trial. JAMA.2011; 306(18):1983-1992. doi: 10.1001/jama.2011.1610.</i>
Inoculation of animals	Discredited	The inoculation of animals is primarily to	<i>Sagar, Aryal MD. (August 2022). Techniques of Virus Cultivation.</i>

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87003		isolate certain viruses when the use of a living organism is of importance. It is expensive to accrue and maintain, difficult, and there are a lot of issues pertaining to animal welfare.	[Animal Inoculation]. [Website]: http://www.microbiologyinfo.com/techniques-of-virus-cultivation/ . Accessed November 9, 2023.
Arsenic testing by means other than urine testing 82175	Obsolete	Measurement of arsenic levels in urine is preferable to blood since arsenic is rapidly cleared from the blood.	Goldman RH, Arsenic Exposure and Poisoning. In: UpToDate Online Journal [serial online]. Waltham, MA: UpToDate; updated October 8, 2020. Literature review current through October 2023.
Bolen's test for cancer /Clot retraction study (CRT) 85170	Obsolete	This test is considered dated and nonspecific; it has largely been replaced with more sophisticated methods in most labs	Street T, Clot Retraction. Updated May 17, 2022. [Website]: http://emedicine.medscape.com/article/2085066-overview#a4 . Accessed November 9, 2023.
Brain imaging, static, for diagnosis of brain tumors 78600, 78601, 78605, 78606	Obsolete	Replaced by more technologically advanced testing	Wong E, Wu J, Overview of the Clinical Features and Diagnosis of Brain Tumors in adults. In: UpToDate Online Journal [serial online]. Waltham, MA: UpToDate; updated October 19, 2023. Literature review current through October 2023.
Cardiointegram (also known as the omnicardiogram) S9025	Discredited	The omnicardiogram cannot be considered a useful technique for predicting the presence or severity of coronary artery disease or for the identification of abnormal left ventricular function in patients with known coronary artery disease	Redy K, Smithline F, Zenan BT, et al. Failure of the omnicardiogram to predict coronary artery disease in patients with normal resting electrocardiograms. Unbound Medline. Journal of electrocardiology 8:1 1975 Jan pg. 13-6.

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Cell therapy with animal proteins M0075	Discredited	Cellular therapy is currently without scientific or statistical evidence to document its therapeutic efficacy and, in fact, is considered a potentially dangerous practice	<i>Unproven methods of cancer management: Issels combination therapy. CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians, 1972. 22: 188–191. doi: 10.3322/canjclin.22.3.188</i>
Cephalin flocculation P2028	Obsolete	An obsolete liver-function test based on crude estimates of the albumin: globulin ratio, supplanted by electrophoresis and other more specific methods.	<i>Segen's Medical Dictionary. © 2012 Farlex, Inc. All rights reserved. Cephalin-cholesterol flocculation test [Website]: http://medical-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/cephalin-cholesterol+flocculation+test Accessed November 9, 2023.</i>
Chemonucleolysis of the spine 62292	Discredited	In January 2003 the FDA halted the sale and distribution of chymopapain in the United States. It was found to cause serious side effects at a higher-than-expected rate	<i>Simmons JW, Fraser RD. The rise and fall of chemonucleolysis. In Arthroscopic and Endoscopic Spinal Surgery 2005 (pp. 351-358). Humana Press.</i>
Coccygectomy 27080	Discredited	Results of effectiveness from randomized trials are not available and there is a risk of serious complications, including infection and hematoma.	<i>Fletcher R. Coccydynia (coccygodynia) In: UpToDate Online Journal [serial online]. Waltham, MA: UpToDate; updated Dec 07, 2021. Literature review current through October 2023.</i>
Blood test using Congo red P2029	Obsolete	Replaced by more technologically advanced testing	<i>Ouchi E, Normura N, Watabe S, et al. Clinical significance of Congo red test. Tohoku J Exp Med. 1976; 118 Suppl: 191-8. PMID:964024</i>
Contrast or chain urethrocytography (including	Obsolete	Replaced with ultrasound scanning.	<i>Gordon D, Pearce M, et al, Comparison of Ultrasound and Lateral Chain Urethrocytography in the Determination of Bladder</i>

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injection procedure 74455, 51605			<i>Neck Descent. American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Volume 160, Issue 1, January 1989. Pages 182-185.</i>
Cystotomy or cystotomy with cryosurgery, fulguration, and/ or insertion of radioactive material 51020	Obsolete	Cystourethroscopy has replaced cystotomy or cystostomy for cryosurgery or fulguration of bladder lesions.	<i>National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE). NG2. Bladder Cancer: Diagnosis and Management. London, UK: NICE; February 2015. [Website]: https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng2 Accessed November 9, 2023.</i>
Cystourethroscopy with insertion of radioactive substance 52250	Discredited	Although cystourethroscopy can be used to deliver radioactive substances to the bladder (intravesical brachytherapy), current evidence-based guidelines do not list brachytherapy as an established treatment for bladder cancer	<i>National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN). NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology: Bladder Cancer. Version 3.2023.</i>
Clearing of blocked sinus (Proetz type) 30210	Discredited	Not listed as a treatment option in professional ENT guidelines.	<i>Otolaryngology Head and Neck. Clinical practice guideline: (update) April 2015. Adult sinusitis. [Website]: http://oto.sagepub.com/content/152/2_suppl/S1.full. Accessed November 9, 2023.</i>
Excision, of pressure ulcer with coccygectomy 15920	Discredited	Results of effectiveness from randomized trials are not available and there is a substantial complication rate with this procedure.	<i>Fletcher R. Coccydynia (coccygodynia) In: UpToDate Online Journal [serial online]. Waltham, MA: UpToDate; updated December 7, 2021. Literature review current through October 2023.</i>
Incisional biopsy of the prostate 55705	Obsolete	Transrectal ultrasound-guided core needle biopsy has replaced incisional biopsy of the	<i>National Comprehensive Care Network (NCCN). NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology. Prostate Cancer</i>

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		prostate for diagnosis of prostate cancer.	
Interruption, partial or complete of femoral vein, by ligation, intravascular device (when performed to treat post-phlebitis syndrome) 37650	Discredited	Older methods of venous intervention were reported to have inferior results. Newer procedures are not well studied in trials that specifically evaluate outcomes in patients with post-thrombotic syndrome.	<i>Alguire P, Mathes BI Post-thrombotic (postphlebotic) Syndrome. In: UpToDate Online Journal [serial online]. Waltham, MA: UpToDate; updated March 9, 2022. Literature review current through October 2023.</i>
Laetrile and related substances (e.g., amygdalin, Sarcocarpinase, vitamin B-17, and nitriloxide) J3570	Discredited	The FDA has determined that neither Laetrile nor any other drug called by the various terms mentioned above, nor any other product which might be characterized as a "nitriloxide" is generally recognized (by experts qualified by scientific training and experience to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of drugs) to be safe and effective for any therapeutic use.	<i>Milazzo S, Horneber M. Laetrile Treatment for Cancer. Cochrane Library. 10/31/14. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD005476.pu b4.</i>
Masters 2 Step to evaluate for coronary insufficiency S3904	Discredited	Testing results inferior to other more technologically advanced methods	<i>Horlick L. A Clinical Re-Evaluation of Master's Two Step Test. Can Med Assoc J. 1959 Jan 1; 80(1): 9-13.</i>
Mechanical fragility test to test red blood cell strength 85547	Obsolete	Replaced by more technologically advanced techniques.	<i>Gu, L, Smith W, Chaztimavroudis G Mechanical Fragility Calibration of Red Blood Cells. ASAIO Journal.2005 May; 51 (3): 194-201 PMID: 15968947</i>
Mucoprotein, blood test P2038	Obsolete	Replaced by more technologically advanced techniques	<i>Lubega J, Davies TJ. A comparison of serum mucoprotein with serum alpha 1</i>

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			<i>acid glycoprotein, haptoglobin, and alpha 1 antitrypsin assays in monitoring inflammatory bowel disease. Clin Chim Acta. 1990;188(1):59-69. doi:10.1016/0009-8981(90)90146-j</i>
Oxygen uptake test [Indirect calorimetry]* *Does not apply to those who are critically ill/hospitalized 94690	Discredited	Additional research is needed to determine the long-term efficacy of using oxygen uptake as part of a comprehensive weight control program.	<i>McDoniel SO, Nelson HA, Thomson CA. Employing RMR technology in a 90-day weight control program. Obes Facts. 2008; 1(6):298-304.</i>
Prostatotomy for external drainage of prostate abscess 55720, 55725	Obsolete	Transurethral evacuation or transperineal aspiration replaced prostatotomy as the standard method of drainage of a prostatic abscess.	<i>Meyrier A, Thomas F Acute bacterial prostatitis. In: UpToDate Online Journal [serial online]. Waltham, MA: UpToDate; updated September 29, 2022. Literature review current through October 2023.</i>
Pulsed irrigation and evacuation systems E0350, E0352	Discredited	Limited comparative studies and insufficient evidence to support effectiveness	<i>Lyons BL, Korsten MA, Spungen AM, et al. Comparison between pulsed irrigation enhanced evacuation and polyethylene glycol-electrolyte lavage solution for bowel preparation prior to elective colonoscopy in veterans with spinal cord injury. J Spinal Cord Med. 2015; 38(6):805-811. doi:10.1179/2045772314Y.0000000256</i>
Rehfuß test for gastric acidity; Gastric acid analysis 43754	Obsolete	Replaced by more technologically advanced techniques	<i>Rosenfield L Gastric tubes, meals, acid, and analysis: rise and decline Clinical Chemistry 43:5 837–842 (1997) [Website]: http://www.clinchem.org/content/43/5/837.full.pdf+html Accessed November 9, 2023.</i>

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Serum glutamate dehydrogenase test 82965	Obsolete	Replaced by more technologically advanced techniques	<i>Jenkins W, Rosalki S, Foo S, et al. Serum glutamate dehydrogenase is not a reliable marker of liver cell necrosis in alcoholics. J Clin Pathol 1982;35:207-210 doi:10.1136/jcp.35.2.207</i>
Sympathectomy, lumbar (when performed to treat hypertension) 64818	Obsolete	Significant operative morbidity and mortality and unwanted side effects that, together with the advent of more effective antihypertensive medications, led to abandonment of this procedure in the early 1970s.	<i>Bertog S, Sobotka P, Horst S. Renal Denervation for Hypertension. J Am Coll Cardiol Interv. 2012; 5(3):249-258. March 2012. doi:10.1016/j.jcin.2011.12.011</i>
Sympathectomy, thoracolumbar (when performed to treat hypertension) 64809	Obsolete	Significant operative morbidity and mortality and unwanted side effects that, together with the advent of more effective antihypertensive medications, led to abandonment of this procedure in the early 1970s.	<i>Bertog S, Sobotka P, Horst S. Renal Denervation for Hypertension. J Am Coll Cardiol Interv. 2012; 5(3):249-258. March 2012. doi:10.1016/j.jcin.2011.12.011</i>
Thymol turbidity blood test P2033	Obsolete	Replaced by more technologically advanced techniques	<i>Hazout S, Lockhart M, Taillefer H, Philippon C, Valleron AJ, Dhumeaux D. The thymol turbidity test and determination of serum cholesterol: two tests to abandon in the routine evaluation of liver function. Biomedicine. 1978; 28(5):288-292 PMID 743555.</i>
Transection or avulsion of phrenic nerve for treatment of hiccups 64746	Discredited	This approach to treatment for hiccups may be associated with considerable morbidity and is not universally successful.	<i>Wilkes G, Hiccups Treatment and Management. Updated December 29, 2017. [Website]: http://emedicine.medscape.com/article/775746-treatment#d1. Accessed November 9, 2023.</i>

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		A Cochrane review concluded that the available evidence was insufficient to guide treatment of persistent or intractable hiccups by either pharmacologic or nonpharmacologic means.	
Uterine suspension 58400	Discredited	Round ligament suspension is not effective in treating uterine or vaginal prolapse.	<i>Kenton K. Pelvic organ prolapse in women: surgical repair or apical prolapse (uterine or vaginal vault prolapse). In: UpToDate Online Journal [serial online]. Waltham, MA: UpToDate; updated March 20, 2023. Literature review current through October 2023.</i>
Uterine suspension with presacral neurectomy 58410	Discredited	The evidence on laparoscopic uterine nerve ablation (LUNA) for chronic pelvic pain suggests that it is not efficacious and therefore should not be used.	<i>National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE). Laparoscopic uterine nerve ablation (LUNA) for chronic pelvic pain Issued: October 2007 London, UK: NICE; [Website]: https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ijpg234/chapter/1-guidance Accessed November 9, 2023.</i>
Sodium amobarbital (Amytal) interview for diagnostic and/or therapeutic purposes 90865	Discredited	No longer approved by the FDA and this therapy is no longer provided NDC 0187-4303-05	<i>https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/ndc/dsp_searchresult.cfm Accessed November 9, 2023.</i>

The following labs and services use unlisted (unspecific) CPT codes.

Medical Policy Service List	Obsolete (Outdated)/ Discredited	Rationale	Reference(s)

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Bendien's Test for cancer and tuberculosis 86849	Obsolete	No longer in use, Replaced by more technologically advanced testing	<i>Bendien's Diagnostic Methods for Cancer and Principles of Treatment. JAMA. 1932;98(5):423. doi:10.1001/jama.1932.02730310063034</i>
Calcium saturation clotting time 85999	Obsolete	No longer used, Replaced by more technologically advanced testing	<i>Glazki A, Effect of Blood Protease and Trypsin Inhibitor on the Clotting Mechanism. J Clin Invest. 1947 May; 26(3): 364–369. doi: 10.1172/JCI101818</i>
Cervicography 58999	Discredited	In February 1999 the Department of Preventive Medicine and Biometrics published findings that cytologic testing performed better than cervicography for the detection of high-grade squamous intraepithelial lesions.	<i>Schneider DL, Herrero R, Bratti C, et al. Cervicography screening for cervical cancer among 8460 women in a high-risk population. Am J Obstet Gynecol 1999; 180(2 pt 1):290-8. PMID: 9988789</i>
Circulation time 85999	Obsolete	Results unpredictable. Replaced by more technologically advanced testing	<i>A Comparison Between Objective and Subjective Methods. Circulation 1958; 17:922-926 doi: 10.1161/01.CIR.17.5.922</i>
Colloidal gold spinal test. Lange's colloidal gold test. 82664	Obsolete	Replaced by more technologically advanced testing	<i>Mellanby J. The Precipitation of Colloidal Gold by Cerebrospinal Fluid. The diagnosis of neuro-Syphilis. April 9, 1923. [Website]: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1584664/pdf/canmedaj00331-0031.pdf Accessed November 9, 2023.</i>

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Gastric analysis, pepsin 84999	Obsolete	Replaced by more technologically advanced testing	<i>Hirschowitz BI, A Critical Analysis, with Appropriate Controls, of Gastric Acid and Pepsin Secretion in Clinical Esophagitis. Gastroenterology. 1991 Nov;101(5):1149-58. PMID: 1936784</i>
Gastric analysis, tubeless 84999	Obsolete	No longer in use. Replaced by more accurate testing methods including gastric pH monitoring	<i>Rosenfeld L, Gastric Tubes, Meals, Acid and Analysis: Rise and Decline. Clinical Chemistry May 1997 vol. 43 no. 5 837-842. [Website]: http://www.clinchem.org/content/43/5/837.full Accessed November 13, 2023.</i>
Guanase, blood 84999	Obsolete	Replaced by more technologically advanced testing	<i>(NCD) 300.1 Obsolete or Unreliable Diagnostic Tests Accessed November 13, 2023.</i>
Phonocardiogram 93799	Obsolete	Replaced by more technologically advanced techniques	<i>Rangayyan R, Phonocardiogram signal analysis: a review. Crit Rev Biomed Eng. 1987; 15(3):211-36. PMID:3329595</i>
Skin test, brucellosis 86486	Obsolete	Replaced by more technologically advanced testing targeting brucellosis.	<i>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Brucellosis. Last reviewed and updated 11/2/2021. [Website]: http://www.cdc.gov/brucellosis/index.html Accessed November 13, 2023.</i>
Skin test, cat scratch fever 86486	Obsolete	The cat scratch skin test, one of the original four criteria for diagnosis of CSD, is no longer used since other more specific and sensitive diagnostic tools are preferred	<i>Spach D, Sheldon K. Microbiology, epidemiology, clinical manifestations, and diagnosis of cat scratch disease. In: UpToDate Online Journal [serial online]. Waltham, MA: UpToDate; updated April 1, 2022. Literature review current through October 2023.</i>

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Skin test, psittacosis 86486	Obsolete	Not the preferred test for this condition	<i>Richards M. Psittacosis In: UpToDate Online Journal [serial online]. Waltham, MA: UpToDate; updated August 23, 2022. Literature review current through October 2023.</i>
Skin test, trichinosis 86486	Obsolete	Not the preferred test for this condition	<i>Weller P, Leder K. Trichinellosis In: UpToDate Online Journal [serial online]. Waltham, MA: UpToDate; updated June 27, 2022. Literature review current through October 2023.</i>
Speculoscopy 58999	Discredited	Kaiser Permanente Medical Center (Anaheim, CA) conducted a study in 1995 showing that colposcopy is better suited than speculoscopy to the follow-up of patients with abnormal cervical cytology; because it facilitates lesion grading and assists in directing biopsies.	<i>Lonky NM, Mann WJ, et al. Ability of visual tests to predict underlying cervical neoplasia. Colposcopy and speculoscopy; J Reprod Med. 1995 Jul;40(7):530-6; PMID: 7473444</i>
Starch, feces, screening 89240	Obsolete	Replaced by more technologically advanced techniques	<i>Davidson M, Bauer C. The Value of Microscopic Examination of the Stool for Extracellular Starch in the Diagnosis of Starch Intolerance. Pediatrics Vol. 21 No. 4 April 1, 1958 pp. 565 -572</i>
Vectorcardiogram; interpretation and report only. 93799	Obsolete	Replaced by more technologically advanced techniques.	<i>Yang H, Bukkapatnam S, Komanduri R. Spatiotemporal representation of cardiac vectorcardiogram (VCG) signals. BioMedical Engineering OnLine</i>

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			2012, 11:16 doi: 10.1186/1475-925X-11-16
Zinc sulphate turbidity, blood 89240	Obsolete	Replaced by more technologically advanced techniques.	Zinc sulfate turbidity test. Segen's Medical Dictionary. © 2012 Farlex, Inc. All rights reserved. [Website]: http://medical-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/zinc+sulfate+turbidity+test Accessed November 13, 2023.

II. PRODUCT VARIATIONS

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This policy is only applicable to certain programs and products administered by Capital Blue Cross please see additional information below, and subject to benefit variations as discussed in Section VI below.

FEP PPO: Refer to FEP Medical Policy Manual. The FEP Medical Policy manual can be found at: <https://www.fepblue.org/benefit-plans/medical-policies-and-utilization-management-guidelines/medical-policies>

III. DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND

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A procedure that is considered obsolete/outdated or discredited is considered a Procedure of Questionable Current Usefulness (POQCU).

IV. RATIONALE

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See specific procedure or test in table above.

V. DEFINITIONS

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DISCREDITED – found to be ineffective or not medically necessary.

MEDICAL NECESSITY - Capital defines “medical necessity or medically necessary” to mean the following:

- Services or supplies that a physician exercising prudent clinical judgment would provide to a Plan Member for the diagnosis and/or the direct care and treatment of the Plan Member’s medical condition, disease, illness, or injury that are necessary; and
- In accordance with accepted standards of good medical practice; and
- Clinically appropriate for the Plan Member’s condition, disease, illness, or injury; and

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- Not primarily for the convenience of the Plan Member and/or Plan Member's family, physician, or other health care provider; and
- Not more costly than alternative services or supplies at least as likely to produce equivalent results for the Plan Member's condition, disease, illness, or injury.

For these purposes, "generally accepted standards of good medical practice" means standards that are based on credible scientific evidence published in peer-reviewed medical literature generally recognized by the relevant medical community, national Physician Specialty Society recommendations, and the views of Physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas and any other clinically relevant factors.

OBSOLETE - replaced by newer technology.

VI. BENEFIT VARIATIONS

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The existence of this medical policy does not mean that this service is a covered benefit under the member's health benefit plan. Benefit determinations should be based in all cases on the applicable health benefit plan language. Medical policies do not constitute a description of benefits. A member's health benefit plan governs which services are covered, which are excluded, which are subject to benefit limits, and which require preauthorization. There are different benefit plan designs in each product administered by Capital Blue Cross. Members and providers should consult the member's health benefit plan for information or contact Capital Blue Cross for benefit information.

VII. DISCLAIMER

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Capital Blue Cross' medical policies are developed to assist in administering a member's benefits, do not constitute medical advice and are subject to change. Treating providers are solely responsible for medical advice and treatment of members. Members should discuss any medical policy related to their coverage or condition with their provider and consult their benefit information to determine if the service is covered. If there is a discrepancy between this medical policy and a member's benefit information, the benefit information will govern. If a provider or a member has a question concerning the application of this medical policy to a specific member's plan of benefits, please contact Capital Blue Cross' Provider Services or Member Services. Capital Blue Cross considers the information contained in this medical policy to be proprietary and it may only be disseminated as permitted by law.

VIII. CODING INFORMATION

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Note: This list of codes may not be all-inclusive, and codes are subject to change at any time. The identification of a code in this section does not denote coverage as coverage is determined by the terms of member benefit information. In addition, not all covered services are eligible for separate reimbursement.

*For related **Procedure Codes**, see coding information within the table of procedures located in the [POLICY](#) section above.

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IX. REFERENCES

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1. *American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fifth Edition. Copyright © 2011 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company Accessed November 13, 2023.*

X. POLICY HISTORY

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MP 4.009	01/16/2020 Minor Review. Added Cervicography and Speculoscopy to the table with code 58999. Effective 5/1/2020.
	06/01/2020 Administrative Update. Code J1429 added to the policy. Product Variation, Benefit Variation, and Disclaimer updated.
	01/25/2021 Consensus Review. Removed injection, golodirsen (currently listed on a medical policy specific to this drug [see: Golodirsen]). References updated.
	02/25/2022 Minor Review. Added Pulsed irrigation evacuation as NMN. Updated references.
	11/13/2023 Minor Review. Removed INV statement from policy so policy is now solely a NMN policy. Updated service list to clarify that static brain imaging is obsolete for diagnosing brain tumors. Clarified that arsenic testing is NMN by means other than a urine test. Deleted 69799 Eustachian tube inflation and 93462 left heart cath transeptal or transapical puncture. Deleted calcium feces 24 hours and chymotrypsin, duodenal contents tests (both 84999) as these tests were removed in 2019. Deleted 52010 and replaced with 51030. Corrected categorization of procedures/tests as obsolete or discredited based on the policy's definition of these two categories. Updated references.
	12/10/2024 Administrative Update. Removed code 51030 due to new code impacts for 1/1/2025.

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Health care benefit programs issued or administered by Capital Blue Cross and/or its subsidiaries, Capital Advantage Insurance Company®, Capital Advantage Assurance Company®, and Keystone Health Plan® Central. Independent licensees of the Blue Cross BlueShield Association. Communications issued by Capital Blue Cross in its capacity as administrator of programs and provider relations for all companies.