

MEDICAL POLICY

POLICY TITLE	SUBTALAR ARTHROEREISIS
POLICY NUMBER	MP 1.114

CLINICAL BENEFIT	☒ MINIMIZE SAFETY RISK OR CONCERN. ☒ MINIMIZE HARMFUL OR INEFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS. ☐ ASSURE APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF CARE. ☐ ASSURE APPROPRIATE DURATION OF SERVICE FOR INTERVENTIONS. ☐ ASSURE THAT RECOMMENDED MEDICAL PREREQUISITES HAVE BEEN MET. ☐ ASSURE APPROPRIATE SITE OF TREATMENT OR SERVICE.
Effective date:	8/1/2026

POLICY

Subtalar arthroereisis is considered **investigational** as there is insufficient evidence to support a general conclusion concerning the health outcomes or benefits associated with this procedure.

PRODUCT VARIATIONS

This policy is only applicable to certain programs and products administered by Capital Blue Cross and subject to benefit variations. Please see additional information below.

FEP PPO - Refer to FEP medical policy manual. The FEP medical policy manual can be found at: fepblue.org/benefit-plans/medical-policies-and-utilization-management-guidelines/medical-policies.

DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND

Arthroereisis is a surgical procedure that purposely limits movement across a joint. Subtalar arthroereisis or extraosseous talotarsal stabilization is designed to correct excessive talar displacement and calcaneal eversion by reducing pronation across the subtalar joint. Extraosseous talotarsal stabilization is also being evaluated as a treatment of talotarsal joint dislocation. It is performed by placing an implant in the sinus tarsi, which is a canal located between the talus and the calcaneus.

Subtalar arthroereisis has been performed for more than 50 years, with a variety of implant designs and compositions. The Maxwell-Brancheau Arthroereisis implant is the most frequently reported, although other devices such as the HyProCure, subtalar arthroereisis peg, and Kalix are also described in the medical literature. The Maxwell-Brancheau Arthroereisis implant is described as reversible and easy to insert, with the additional advantage that it does not require bone cement. In children, insertion of the Maxwell-Brancheau Arthroereisis implant may be offered as a stand-alone procedure, although children and adults often require adjunctive surgical procedures on bone and soft tissue to correct additional deformities.

Regulatory Status

A number of implants have been cleared for marketing by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration through the 510(k) process, and are summarized in Table 1. In general, these

MEDICAL POLICY

POLICY TITLE	SUBTALAR ARTHROEREISIS
POLICY NUMBER	MP 1.114

devices are indicated for insertion into the sinus tarsi of the foot, allowing normal subtalar joint motion while blocking excessive pronation. FDA Product Code: HWC.

Table 1. Representative Subtalar Implant Devices Cleared by FDA

Device	Manufacturer	Date Cleared	510(k) No.
Subtalar MBA®	Integra LifeSciences	07/96	K960692
OsteoMed Subtalar Implant System	OsteoMed	08/03	K031155
BioPro Subtalar Implant	BioPro	09/04	K041936
HyProCure Subtalar Implant System	Graham Medical Technologies	09/04	K042030
MBA Resorb Implant	Kinetikos Medical	09/05	K051611
Metasurg Subtalar Implant	Metasurg	05/07	K070441
Subtalar Implant	Biomet Sports Medicine	07/07	K071498
Arthrex ProStop Plus Arthroereisis Subtalar Implant	Arthrex	01/08	K071456
Trilliant Surgical Subtalar Implant	Trilliant Surgical	02/11	K103183
Metasurg Subtalar Implant	Metasurg	08/11	K111265
NuGait™ Subtalar Implant System	Ascension Orthopedic	08/11	K111799
Disco Subtalar Implant	Trilliant Surgical	12/11	K111834
OsteoSpring FootJack Subtalar Implant System	OsteoSpring Medical	12/11	K112658
IFS Subtalar Implant	Internal Fixation Systems	12/11	K113399
The Life Spine Subtalar Implant System	Life Spine	06/16	K160169
Incore Subtalar System	Nextremity Solutions, Inc.	12/21	K213301
Bioplan subtalar implant	BRM Extremities	12/22	K222820

^a FDA 510(k) database search product code HWC (03/08/18).

RATIONALE

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

For individuals who have flatfoot who receive STA, the evidence includes single-arm observational studies, systematic reviews of observational data, and a small nonrandomized controlled trial comparing subtalar arthroereisis with lateral column calcaneal lengthening. Relevant outcomes are symptoms, functional outcomes, and quality of life. The small nonrandomized comparative trial (N=24 feet) is considered preliminary, and interpretation of the observational evidence is limited by the use of adjunctive procedures in addition to subtalar arthroereisis, creating difficulties in determining the extent to which each modality contributed to the outcomes. Another limitation of the published data is the lack of long-term outcomes, which is of particular importance because the procedure is often performed in growing children. Also, some studies have reported high rates of complications and implant removal. The evidence is

MEDICAL POLICY

POLICY TITLE	SUBTALAR ARTHROEREISIS
POLICY NUMBER	MP 1.114

insufficient to determine that the technology results in an improvement in the net health outcome.

For individuals who have talotarsal joint dislocation who receive subtalar arthroereisis, the evidence consists of 1 prospective single-arm study of talotarsal stabilization using HyProCure. Relevant outcomes are symptoms, functional outcomes, and quality of life. Although improvements in pain and function were observed, the current evidence on the use of subtalar arthroereisis for treatment of talotarsal joint dislocation is insufficient to draw conclusions about treatment efficacy with certitude. The evidence is insufficient to determine that the technology results in an improvement in the net health outcome.

DEFINITIONS

CALCANEUS is the largest of the tarsal bones situated at the lower and back part of the foot forming the heel.

TALUS is the ankle bone; the bone of the tarsus which articulates with the tibia at the ankle.

DISCLAIMER

Capital Blue Cross' medical policies are used to determine coverage for specific medical technologies, procedures, equipment, and services. These medical policies do not constitute medical advice and are subject to change as permitted by law or applicable clinical evidence from independent treatment guidelines. Treating providers are solely responsible for medical advice and treatment of members. These policies are not a guarantee of coverage or payment. Payment of claims is subject to a determination regarding the member's benefit program and eligibility on the date of service, and a determination that the services are medically necessary and appropriate. Final processing of a claim is based upon the terms of contract that applies to the members' benefit program, including benefit limitations and exclusions. If a provider or a member has a question concerning this medical policy, please contact Capital Blue Cross' Provider Services or Member Services.

CODING INFORMATION

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.

Investigational; therefore, not covered:

Procedure Codes							
S2117	0335T	0510T	0511T	28899			

MEDICAL POLICY

POLICY TITLE	SUBTALAR ARTHROEREISIS
POLICY NUMBER	MP 1.114

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MEDICAL POLICY

POLICY TITLE	SUBTALAR ARTHROEREISIS
POLICY NUMBER	MP 1.114

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Other Sources:

Mondofacto On-line Medical Dictionary.

POLICY HISTORY

MP 1.114	06/18/2020 Consensus Review. Policy statement unchanged. Product variation, background, references, disclaimer, and benefit variation updated. Coding reviewed.
	04/09/2021 Consensus Review. No change to policy statement. References reviewed. No coding changes.
	04/04/2022 Consensus Review. No change to policy statement. FEP, rationale, references updated. No coding changes.
	06/16/2023 Consensus Review. No changes to policy statement. References updated. No coding changes.
	05/15/2024 Consensus Review. No changes to policy statement. References updated. No coding changes.
	04/08/2025 Consensus Review. No changes to policy statement. Coding reviewed, no changes.
	07/09/2025 Administrative Update. Removed Benefit Variations Section and updated Disclaimer.
	05/04/2026 Consensus Review. No change to policy statement. Background, Rationale and References updated.

MEDICAL POLICY

POLICY TITLE	SUBTALAR ARTHROEREISIS
POLICY NUMBER	MP 1.114

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