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Medicare Advantage Policy Manual

Policy ID: M-SUR239

Long-Term Sub-Scalp Electroencephalography Monitoring Systems

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Medicare Link(s) Revised: N/A

IMPORTANT REMINDER

The Medicare Advantage Medical Policy manual is not intended to override the member Evidence of Coverage (EOC), which defines the insured's benefits, nor is it intended to dictate how providers are to practice medicine. Physicians and other health care providers are expected to exercise their medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care for the individual member.

The Medicare Advantage Medical Policies are designed to provide guidance regarding the decision-making process for the coverage or non-coverage of services or procedures in accordance with the member EOC and the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) policies, when available. In the event of a conflict, applicable CMS policy or EOC language will take precedence over the Medicare Advantage Medical Policy. In the absence of CMS guidance for a requested service or procedure, the health plan may apply their Medical Policy Manual or MCG™ criteria, both of which are developed with an objective, evidence-based process using scientific evidence, current generally accepted standards of medical practice, and authoritative clinical practice guidelines.

Medicare and EOCs exclude from coverage, among other things, services or procedures considered to be investigational, cosmetic, or not medically necessary, and in some cases, providers may bill members for these non-covered services or procedures. Providers are encouraged to inform members in advance when they may be financially responsible for the cost of non-covered or excluded services.

DESCRIPTION

Long-term sub-scalp electroencephalography monitoring systems are used to acquire, transmit, and store continuous EEGs for long periods of time (months to years) in patients with drug-resistant epilepsy.

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE POLICY CRITERIA

CMS Coverage Manuals*	None
National Coverage Determinations (NCDs)*	None
Noridian Healthcare Solutions (Noridian) Local	None

Coverage Determinations (LCDs) and Articles*

Medical Policy Manual

Medicare coverage guidance is not available for long-term sub-scalp EEG monitoring in patients with drug resistant epilepsy. Therefore, the health plan's medical policy is applicable.

Long-Term Sub-Scalp Electroencephalography Monitoring Systems, Surgery, [Policy No. 239](#) (see "NOTE" below)

NOTE: If a procedure or device lacks scientific evidence regarding safety and efficacy because it is investigational or experimental, the service is noncovered as not reasonable and necessary to treat illness or injury. ([Medicare IOM Pub. No. 100-04, Ch. 23, §30 A](#)). According to Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, §1862(a)(1)(A), only medically reasonable and necessary services are covered by Medicare. In the absence of a NCD, LCD, or other coverage guideline, CMS guidelines allow a Medicare Advantage Organization (MAO) to make coverage determinations, applying an **objective, evidence-based process, based on authoritative evidence**. ([Medicare IOM Pub. No. 100-16, Ch. 4, §90.5](#)). The Medicare Advantage Medical Policy - Medicine Policy No. M-149 - provides further details regarding the plan's evidence-assessment process (see Cross References).

POLICY GUIDELINES

REGULATORY STATUS

The Minder® System from Epiminder received FDA De Novo classification on April 17, 2025.

Note, the fact a new service or procedure has been issued a CPT/HCPCS code or is FDA approved for a specific indication does not, in itself, make the procedure medically reasonable and necessary. The FDA determines safety and effectiveness of a device or drug, but does not establish medical necessity. While Medicare may adopt FDA determinations regarding safety and effectiveness, Medicare or Medicare contractors evaluate whether or not the drug or device is reasonable and necessary for the Medicare population under §1862(a)(1)(A).

CROSS REFERENCES

1. [Investigational \(Experimental\) Services, New and Emerging Medical Technologies and Procedures, and Other Non-Covered Services](#), Medicine, Policy No. M-149

REFERENCES

None

CODING

Codes	Number	Description
CPT	0956T	Partial craniectomy, channel creation, and tunneling of electrode for sub-scalp implantation of an electrode array, receiver, and telemetry unit for

	continuous bilateral electroencephalography monitoring system, including imaging guidance
0957T	Revision of sub-scalp implanted electrode array, receiver, and telemetry unit for electrode, when required, including imaging guidance
0958T	Removal of sub-scalp implanted electrode array, receiver, and telemetry unit for continuous bilateral electroencephalography monitoring system, including imaging guidance
0959T	Removal or replacement of magnet from coil assembly that is connected to continuous bilateral electroencephalography monitoring system, including imaging guidance
0960T	Replacement of sub-scalp implanted electrode array, receiver, and telemetry unit with tunneling of electrode for continuous bilateral electroencephalography monitoring system, including imaging guidance
HCPCS	None

***IMPORTANT NOTE:** Medicare Advantage medical policies use the most current Medicare references available at the time the policy was developed. Links to Medicare references will take viewers to external websites outside of the health plan's web control as these sites are not maintained by the health plan.