

# MEDICAL POLICY UPDATE



May 2022



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## Policy

Policy Title	Anticipated Issue Date	30 Day Notification Information
B-1 Coverage for Hearing Aids	7/04/2022	This policy is being updated as an annual review. Coding is being updated. The policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
E-58 Wearable Cardioverter-Defibrillator	08/29/2022	This policy was completed for annual review. Updated criteria will require 90-day notification. Updated criteria will more closely reflect Medicare.
G-47 Concussion testing	7/11/2022	This is the annual review of medical policy G-47. Language on the policy was updated and the criteria was reformatted. The policy will publish on July 11, 2022.
I-114 Levoleucovorin (Fusilev or Khapzory)	7/04/2022	This policy was scheduled for annual review. The policy will be archived. The policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
I-116 Ofatumumab (Arzerra)	7/04/2022	This policy was scheduled for annual review. This policy will be archived and will be published on July 4, 2022.
I-120 Programmed Death Receptor (PD-1)/ Programmed Death-Ligand (PD-L1) Blocking Antibodies	7/04/2022	This policy was scheduled for annual review. New to market Opadualog was added. Criteria and coding were also added. The policy will publish on July 4, 2022.

Policy Title	Anticipated Issue Date	30 Day Notification Information
I-147 Talimogene Laherparepvec (Imlygic)	7/04/2022	This policy was scheduled for annual review. The NCCN statement was updated. The policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
I-148 Ramucirumab (Cyramza®)	7/04/2022	This policy was scheduled for annual review. The NCCN standard language was updated. The policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
I-158 Pegaspargase (Oncaspar), Asparaginase Erwinia Chrysanthemi (Erwinaze), and Calaspargase Pegol-mknl (Asparlas)	7/4/2022	This policy was scheduled for annual review. The NCCN section was updated with the NCCN statement. Coding was updated. Rylaze was newly added to policy. The policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
I-161 Irinotecan Liposomal (Onivyde)	7/04/2022	This policy was scheduled for annual review. The NCCN section is replaced with NCCN standard statement. Diagnosis codes were updated. Denial statement was updated. The policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
I-162 Olaratumab (Lartuvo)	7/04/2022	This policy was scheduled for annual review. Policy is being archived. Policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
I-166 Elotuzumab (Empliciti)	7/04/2022	This policy was scheduled for annual review. The NCCN section was updated to the standard statement with some minor language updates. The policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
I-170 Siltuximab (Sylvant)	7/04/2022	This policy was scheduled for annual review. The NCCN section was updated with the standard statement. There were some minor language updates. The policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
I-180 Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-Cell Therapy	07/04/2022	This policy is being revised to update criteria for a new indication for Yescarta. This policy will now include criteria for relapsed or refractory large B-cell lymphoma. Policy will publish July 4, 2022.
I-191 Aliqopa	7/04/2022	This policy was scheduled for annual review. NCCN section was replaced with standard statement. The coding was updated. The policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
I-21 Trastuzumab (Herceptin), Trastuzumab Biosimilars, and Trastuzumab and Hyaluronidase-oysk (Herceptin Hylecta)	7/18/2022	This policy is up for annual review. Policy criteria was updated, and language was revised to this standardized NCCN language. Additional diagnosis of biliary tract cancer was added to the policy. Policy will publish on July 18, 2022.
I-215 Enfortumab vedotin-ejfv (Padcev)	7/04/2022	This policy is up for annual review. Policy criteria has been revised to the standardized NCCN language. Coding revisions were also made to this policy. Policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
I-219 Fam-trastuzumab Deruxtecan-nxki (Enhertu)	7/04/2022	This policy is up for annual review. Policy criteria was revised to the standardized NCCN language. Coding changes were made to reflect the additional covered diagnosis of esophageal and esophagogastric cancer. Policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
I-235 Margetuximab-cmkb (Margetenza)	7/11/2022	This policy is up for annual review. Policy criteria was revised to standardized NCCN language and a minor coding change was made. Policy will publish on July 11, 2022.

Policy Title	Anticipated Issue Date	30 Day Notification Information
I-59 Gemcitabine	7/11/2022	This policy is up for annual review. Coverage criteria was revised to the standardized NCCN language. Coding revisions were also made to the policy to capture the covered diagnosis of salivary gland tumors, advanced head and neck cancers and peritoneal mesothelioma. Policy will publish on July 11, 2022.
I-79 Plerixafor (Mozobil)	7/25/2022	This policy is up for annual review. Policy was updated to the standardized NCCN language and coding revisions were also made. Policy will publish on July 25, 2022.
I-86 Bevacizumab (Avastin) and Bevacizumab Biosimilars	7/25/2022	This policy is up for annual review. Policy criteria was revised and updated to the standardized NCCN language. Additional covered indication of ampullary carcinoma was added. Policy will publish on July 25, 2022.
I-88 Granulocyte Colony-Stimulating Factors	07/04/2022	This policy is being updated to include criteria for new to market therapy Releuko (filgrastim-ayow), a biosimilar to Neupogen. This policy will publish July 4, 2022.
I-89 Carboplatin (Paraplatin)	07/18/2022	This policy is up for annual review. Policy criteria was revised to the standardized NCCN language. Coding updates were made to include the additional dx of salivary gland tumor and malignant peritoneal mesothelioma. Policy will publish on July 18, 2022.
L-28 Tumor Markers	7/04/2022	This policy is scheduled for annual review. Verbiage and ICD coding updated. This policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
L-32 Laboratory Studies for Diagnosing and Managing Inflammatory Bowel Disease	7/04/2022	This policy is scheduled for annual review. Minimal administrative updates were made. This policy is scheduled to publish July 4, 2022.
M-18 Cardiac Ablation Procedures	7/04/2022	This is the annual review for this policy there are CPT codes added and some diagnostic codes removed from the policy. Policy to publish July 4, 2022.
M-34 Electroencephalogram (EEG) Technologies	7/04/2022	This is the annual review of M-34. Coding and criteria were updated. Diagnosis codes are now applied on a pre-pay basis. The policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
M-52 External Counterpulsation	7/04/2022	This policy is up for annual review. Removing from the title the parenthesis (ECP), removing the NYHA and replacing with the Canadian grading guidelines. Policy to publish on July 4, 2022.
M-61 Autonomic Nervous System Function Testing	7/11/2022	This is the annual review of M-61 Autonomic Nervous System Function Testing. Denial statement, diagnosis codes, and indications have been updated. The policy will publish on July 11, 2022.
M-62 Polysomnography for Non-Respiratory Sleep Disorders	8/29/2022	This is the annual review of medical policy M-62. This policy was combined with medical policies Z-8 and Z-64 and will be archived. The policy will publish on August 29, 2022.
S-11 Pheresis Therapy	7/04/2022	This policy is up for annual review. Removal of diagnosis codes that do NOT pertain to this policy. Adding Dx code O14.20. Publish date July 4, 2022.

Policy Title	Anticipated Issue Date	30 Day Notification Information
S-128 Photodynamic Therapy with Porfimer Sodium	7/04/2022	This policy is scheduled for annual review. ICD diagnosis codes updated for specificity. This policy is scheduled to publish July 4, 2022.
S-133 Endovascular/Endoluminal Stent Grafts	7/04/2022	This policy was up for annual review. There are no changes made to the policy. Publish date is July 4, 2022.
S-143 Donor Leukocyte Infusion for Hematologic Malignancies that Relapse after Allogeneic Cell Transplant	7/04/2022	This policy is scheduled for annual review. This policy is being archived. The criteria and coding are being moved to S-272, Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation: Blood Cancers. This policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
S-181 Coronary Revascularization	7/04/2022	This is up for annual review and there are no changes to the policy. Publish date is July 4, 2022.
S-192 Ultrafiltration in Decompensated Heart Failure	7/4/2022	This policy was up for annual review. There are no changes to this policy. Publish date is July 4, 2022.
S-206 Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation for Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia and Small Lymphocytic Lymphoma	7/04/2022	This policy is scheduled for annual review. This policy is being archived. The criteria and coding are being moved to S-272, Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation: Blood Cancers. This policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
S-207 Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation for Multiple Myeloma and POEMS Syndrome	7/04/2022	This policy is scheduled for annual review. This policy is being archived. The criteria and coding are being moved to S-272, Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation: Blood Cancers. This policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
S-208 Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation for Non-Hodgkin Lymphomas	7/04/2022	This policy is scheduled for annual review. This policy is being archived. The criteria and coding are being moved to S-272, Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation: Blood Cancers. This policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
S-209 Allogeneic Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation for Myelodysplastic Syndromes and Myeloproliferative Neoplasms	7/04/2022	This policy is scheduled for annual review. This policy is being archived. The criteria and coding are being moved to S-272, Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation: Blood Cancers. This policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
S-214 Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation for Acute Myeloid Leukemia	7/04/2022	This policy is scheduled for annual review. This policy is being archived. The criteria and coding are being moved to S-272, Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation: Blood Cancers. This policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
S-217 Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation for Hodgkin Lymphoma	7/04/2022	This policy is scheduled for annual review. This policy is being archived. The criteria and coding are being moved to S-272, Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation: Blood Cancers. This policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
S-218 Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation for Chronic Myeloid Leukemia	7/04/2022	This policy is scheduled for annual review. This policy is being archived. The criteria and coding are being moved to S-272, Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation: Blood Cancers. This policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
S-220 Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation for Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia	7/04/2022	This policy is scheduled for annual review. This policy is being archived. The criteria and coding are being moved to S-272, Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation: Blood Cancers. This policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
S-223 Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation for Primary Amyloidosis	7/04/2022	This policy is scheduled for annual review. This policy is being archived. The criteria and coding are being moved to S-272, Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation: Blood Cancers. This policy will publish on July 4, 2022.

Policy Title	Anticipated Issue Date	30 Day Notification Information
S-224 Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation for Waldenström Macroglobulinemia	7/04/2022	This policy is scheduled for annual review. This policy is being archived. The criteria and coding are being moved to S-272, Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation: Blood Cancers. This policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
S-245 Percutaneous Left Atrial Appendage Closure Devices	7/4/2022	This policy was up for annual review. Changes made to the policy to remove ALL devices, i.e., Watchman ets and make the policy all FDA approved devices are allowable. Publish date 07/04/2022.
S-248 Radiofrequency Ablation of Peripheral Nerves to Treat Chronic Knee Pain	7/11/2022	This is the annual review of S-248. Genicular nerve blocks, nerve cryoablation, and SI joint RFA have been moved from Z-67 and added to S-248. The policy will publish on July 11, 2022.
S-272 Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation: Blood Cancers	07/04/2022	This is a new policy combining the following policies to create HMK S-272, Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation: Blood Cancers from the following 11 policies: S-143, S-206, S-207, S-208, S-209, S-214, S-217, S-218, S-220, S-223, S-224. Coding has been updated to reflect criteria. Administrative changes have been made. Policy will publish July 4, 2022.
Y-1 Physical Medicine	7/04/2022	This policy is scheduled for annual review. Language was added to the policy to reflect chiropractic services. There were changes to the operational guidelines for clarity. The policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
Y-2 Occupational Therapy	7/04/2022	This policy is scheduled for annual review. The policy language was updated with the addition of information regarding E/M service for physical therapy. Procedure codes were added to the policy. The policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
Y-9 Manipulation Services	7/04/2022	This policy is being updated to remove language regarding physical medicine procedures. Procedure codes were added to the policy and the operational guidelines were updated. The policy will publish on July 4, 2022.
Z-67 Experimental/Investigational Services	7/11/2022	The following procedure codes are being relocated from Z-67 to S-248: 0440T, 0441T, 0442T, 64454, and 64625. J9021 is being added to I-158. Policy to publish July 11, 2022.
Z-75 Posterior Tibial Nerve Stimulation	8/29/2022	This is the annual review of medical policy Z-75. The denial statement and criteria has been updated. The policy will publish on August 29, 2022.
Z-8 Diagnosis and Treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea for Adults	8/29/2022	This policy was up for annual review. There is a 90-day notification attached with this policy for criteria revision. Publish date is August 29, 2022.



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## Updated Criteria for Wearable Cardioverter-Defibrillator



NEWS FOR ALL  
PROVIDER TYPES

Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Western New York has revised criteria for E-58 Wearable Cardioverter-Defibrillator. The policy is updated to more accurately reflect standards of care.

This revised Medical Policy will apply to professional providers and/or facility claims. The effective date is August 29, 2022.

**Place of Service:**

Please refer to Medical Policy E-58 Wearable Cardioverter-Defibrillator, for additional information.

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## Coverage Guidelines Established for Bevacizumab-maly (Alymsys)



NEWS FOR ALL  
PROVIDER TYPES

Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Western New York has established new guidelines for bevacizumab-maly (Alymsys).

This revised Medical Policy will apply to professional providers and facility claims. The effective date is July 4, 2022.

**Place of Service: Outpatient**

Please refer to Medical Policy I-86, Bevacizumab (Avastin) and Bevacizumab Biosimilars, for additional information.

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## Policy Established for Nivolumab and Relatlimab-rmbw (Opdualag)



NEWS FOR ALL  
PROVIDER TYPES

Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Western New York has established new criteria for Nivolumab and Relatlimab-rmbw (Opdualag).

This new criteria will apply to professional providers and facility claims. The effective date is July 4, 2022.

**Place of Service: Outpatient**

Please refer to Medical Policy I-120 Programmed Death Receptor (PD-1)/ Programmed Death-Ligand (PD-L1) Blocking Antibodies, for additional information.

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## Policy Established for Asparaginase Erwinia Chrysanthemi (Rylaze)



Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Western New York has established new criteria for Asparaginase Erwinia Chrysanthemi (Rylaze).

This new criteria will apply to professional providers and facility claims. The effective date is July 11, 2022.

### **Place of Service: Outpatient**

Please refer to Medical Policy I-158 Pegaspargase (Oncaspar), Asparaginase Erwinia Chrysanthemi (Erwinaze, Rylaze), and Calaspargase Pegol-mknl (Asparlas), for additional information.

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## Criteria Revised for Posterior Tibial Nerve Stimulation



Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Western New York has revised criteria for Z-75, Posterior Tibial Nerve Stimulation.

Documented intolerance, contraindication, or failure with treatment outcomes (after at least a 4-week trial) to at least two anti-cholinergic drugs prior to the PTNS therapy initiation for the following conditions:

- Overactive bladder; or
- Urge incontinence; or
- Frequency-urgency syndrome; or
- Neurogenic bladder dysfunction.

PTNS maintenance therapy that goes beyond the initial 12 sessions may be considered medically necessary at a frequency of up to one (1) session every month for up to a maximum of three (3) years when **ALL** of the following criteria are met:

- There is documented completion and tolerance during the initial PTNS therapy (i.e. first 12 sessions of PTNS); **and**
- There is a documented improvement of the symptoms (50% reduction or greater) of urinary frequency, nocturia, and/or urinary urgency during the initial PTNS therapy.

The maximum lifetime number of PTNS treatments will be 48 total. PTNS treatments that exceed the frequency guidelines listed on the policy are considered not medically necessary.

Implantable tibial nerve stimulation is considered not medically necessary.

This revised Medical Policy will apply to professional providers and facility claims. The effective date is August 29, 2022.

### **Place of Service: Inpatient/Outpatient**

Please refer to Medical Policy Z-75, Posterior Tibial Nerve Stimulation, for additional information.

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## Criteria Revised for Diagnosis and Treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea for Adults



Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Western New York has revised criteria for Z-8, Diagnosis and Treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea in Adult Individuals. Criteria for PSG/RLS has been removed from M-62, Polysomnography for Non-Respiratory Sleep Disorders, and added to Z-8. The policy will now indicate the following:

PSG/RLS Criteria:

PSG may be considered medically necessary for the diagnosis of periodic limb movement disorder when ALL of the following are criteria met:

- A complaint of repetitive limb movement during sleep by the individual or an observer; and
- No other concurrent sleep disorder; and
- At least ONE of the following is present:
  - Frequent awakenings; or
  - Fragmented sleep; or
  - Difficulty maintaining sleep; or
  - Excessive daytime sleepiness.

PSG for the diagnosis of periodic limb movement disorder is considered not medically necessary when there is concurrent:

- Untreated obstructive sleep apnea; or
- Restless legs syndrome (RLS); or
- Narcolepsy; or
- REM sleep behavior disorder.

This revised Medical Policy will apply to professional providers and facility claims. The effective date is August 29, 2022.

**Place of Service: Inpatient/Outpatient**

Please refer to Medical Policy Z-8, Diagnosis and Treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea for Adults, for additional information.

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## Criteria Revised for Diagnosis and Treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea in Pediatric Individuals



Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Western New York has revised criteria for Z-64, Diagnosis and Treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea in Pediatric Individuals. Criteria for PSG/RLS and Actigraphy has been removed from M-62, Polysomnography for Non-Respiratory Sleep Disorders, and added to Z-64. The policy will now indicate the following:

PSG/RLS Criteria:

PSG may be considered medically necessary when evaluating individuals with parasomnias when there is a history of sleep related injurious or potentially injurious disruptive behaviors.

PSG may be considered medically necessary for the diagnosis of periodic limb movement disorder when ALL of the following are criteria met:



- A complaint of repetitive limb movement during sleep by the individual or an observer; and
- No other concurrent sleep disorder; and
- At least ONE of the following is present:
  - Frequent awakenings; or
  - Fragmented sleep; or
  - Difficulty maintaining sleep; or
  - Excessive daytime sleepiness.

PSG for the diagnosis of periodic limb movement disorder is considered not medically necessary when there is concurrent:

- Untreated obstructive sleep apnea; or
- Restless legs syndrome (RLS); or
- Narcolepsy; or
- REM sleep behavior disorder.

### **Actigraphy**

Actigraphy in conjunction with PSG may be considered medically necessary to evaluate sleep disorders for individuals 17 years or younger.

Actigraphy used as a sole technique to record and analyze body movement to evaluate sleep disorders not meeting the criteria as indicated in this policy is considered not medically necessary.

This revised Medical Policy will apply to professional providers and facility claims. The effective date is August 29, 2022.

### **Place of Service: Inpatient/Outpatient**

Please refer to Medical Policy Z-64, Diagnosis and Treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea in Pediatric Individuals, for additional information.



## Comments on These Medical Policies?

We want to know what you think about our new medical policy changes. Send us an email with any questions or comments that you may have on the new medical policies in this edition of Medical Policy Update.

Write to us at [medicalpolicy@highmark.com](mailto:medicalpolicy@highmark.com)



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