CONGENITAL PORT WINE STAIN HEMANGIOMA TREATMENT

Non-Discrimination Statement and Multi-Language Interpreter Services information are located at the end of this document.

Coverage for services, procedures, medical devices and drugs are dependent upon benefit eligibility as outlined in the member's specific benefit plan. This Medical Coverage Guideline must be read in its entirety to determine coverage eligibility, if any.

This Medical Coverage Guideline provides information related to coverage determinations only and does not imply that a service or treatment is clinically appropriate or inappropriate. The provider and the member are responsible for all decisions regarding the appropriateness of care. Providers should provide BCBSAZ complete medical rationale when requesting any exceptions to these guidelines.

The section identified as “Description” defines or describes a service, procedure, medical device or drug and is in no way intended as a statement of medical necessity and/or coverage.

The section identified as “Criteria” defines criteria to determine whether a service, procedure, medical device or drug is considered medically necessary or experimental or investigational.

State or federal mandates, e.g., FEP program, may dictate that any drug, device or biological product approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) may not be considered experimental or investigational and thus the drug, device or biological product may be assessed only on the basis of medical necessity.

Medical Coverage Guidelines are subject to change as new information becomes available.

For purposes of this Medical Coverage Guideline, the terms "experimental" and "investigational" are considered to be interchangeable.

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CONGENITAL PORT WINE STAIN HEMANGIOMA TREATMENT (cont.)

Description:

Congenital port wine stains, or nevus flammeus, are common vascular malformations that start as pink macules and tend to become darker and thicker over time. Port wine stains are generally on the face but may emerge anywhere on the body. Unlike many other birthmarks, port wine stains do not resolve spontaneously. Clinically, there can be an association of port wine stains and limb length discrepancy. Laser treatment (including pulsed dye lasers [PDL], Alexandrite, Nd:YAG lasers and intense pulsed light [IPL]) of the lesion will cause gradual destruction of the hemangioma. Treatment in the macular stage may prevent the development of the hypertrophic component of the lesion.

Functional Impairment:

A state in which the normal or proper action of any body part or organ is damaged or deficient as a result of a congenital port wine stain hemangioma.

Criteria:

COVERAGE FOR TREATMENT TO CORRECT A CONGENITAL DEFECT OR BIRTH ABNORMALITY IS DEPENDENT UPON BENEFIT PLAN LANGUAGE AND IS SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE RECONSTRUCTIVE BENEFIT AND THE COSMETIC BENEFIT EXCLUSION. REFER TO MEMBER’S SPECIFIC BENEFIT PLAN BOOKLET TO VERIFY BENEFITS AND THE FUNCTIONAL IMPAIRMENT REQUIREMENT.

- Laser treatment of congenital port wine stain hemangiomas, with 1 to 5 treatment sessions per vascular lesion being treated, is considered medically necessary with documentation of symptomatic and/or functional impairment. This may include, but is not limited to:
  1. Bleeding of the lesion or area
  2. Scarring or lesion hypertrophy that causes impaired function and/or symptoms
  3. Atrophy that causes impaired function and/or symptoms

- Laser treatment of congenital port wine stain hemangiomas with an associated limb length discrepancy is considered medically necessary for 1 to 5 treatment sessions per vascular lesion being treated with documentation of ALL of the following:
  1. Limb length difference is evidenced by a discrepancy in girth or length
  2. Port wine stain is present on the limb with the discrepancy in girth or length

- Requests for greater than 5 treatment sessions will be reviewed by the medical director(s) and/or clinical advisor(s). Provider documentation must support the medical necessity for continued treatment (e.g., bleeding, pain, thrombosis).
CONGENITAL PORT WINE STAIN HEMANGIOMA TREATMENT (cont.)

Criteria: (cont.)

- Laser treatment of congenital port wine stain hemangiomas in combination with photodynamic therapy or topical angiogenesis inhibitors is considered experimental or investigational based upon:
  1. Insufficient scientific evidence to permit conclusions concerning the effect on health outcomes, and
  2. Insufficient evidence to support improvement of the net health outcome, and
  3. Insufficient evidence to support improvement of the net health outcome as much as, or more than, established alternatives, and
  4. Insufficient evidence to support improvement outside the investigational setting.

- Laser treatment of congenital port wine stain hemangiomas for all other indications not previously listed or if above criteria not met is considered cosmetic and not eligible for coverage even when the procedure will improve emotional, psychological or mental condition or performance, based upon ANY of the following:
  1. Intent to enhance or improve appearance
  2. Absence of a functional physical impairment

- Laser treatment meant to prevent future complications is not eligible for coverage.

Resources:

Literature reviewed 12/06/16. We do not include marketing materials, poster boards and non-published literature in our review.

The BCBS Association Medical Policy Reference Manual (MPRM) policy is included in our guideline review. References cited in the MPRM policy are not duplicated on this guideline.


CONGENITAL PORT WINE STAIN HEMANGIOMA TREATMENT (cont.)

Resources: (cont.)


CONGENITAL PORT WINE STAIN HEMANGIOMA TREATMENT (cont.)

Non-Discrimination Statement:

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona (BCBSAZ) complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex. BCBSAZ provides appropriate free aids and services, such as qualified interpreters and written information in other formats, to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us. BCBSAZ also provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as qualified interpreters and information written in other languages. If you need these services, call (602) 864-4884 for Spanish and (877) 475-4799 for all other languages and other aids and services.

If you believe that BCBSAZ has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex, you can file a grievance with: BCBSAZ’s Civil Rights Coordinator, Attn: Civil Rights Coordinator, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona, P.O. Box 13466, Phoenix, AZ 85002-3466, (602) 864-2288, TTY/TDD (602) 864-4823, crc@azblue.com. You can file a grievance in person or by mail or email. If you need help filing a grievance BCBSAZ’s Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you. You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf, or by mail or phone at: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue SW., Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington, DC 20201, 1–800–368–1019, 800–537–7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/fi le/index.html

Multi-Language Interpreter Services:

Spanish: Si usted, o alguien a quien usted está ayudando, tiene preguntas acerca de Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona, tiene derecho a obtener ayuda e información en su idioma sin costo alguno. Para hablar con un intérprete, llame al 602-864-4884.

Navajo: Díí kwe’ é atah níilígíí Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona haad a yít’éego biná’ídíldíkgo éí doodo Háída biiy anilyeeéígíí t’áadoo le’é yíina’ídíldíkgo beehaz’aáníi hólo díí t’aá hazaak’e’ii háká a’doowolgo bee haz’a doo báqá ilínígóó. Aťa’ halne’ígíí kojí bích’é’i’i hodilínih 877-475-4799.

Chinese: 如果您，或是您正在协助的对象，有关于插入项目的名称 Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona 方面的问题，您有权利免费以您的母语得到帮助和讯息。洽询一位翻译人员。请拨电话 在此插入数字 877-475-4799。

Vietnamese: Nếu quý vị, hay người mà quý vị đang giúp đỡ, có câu hỏi về Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona quý vị sẽ có quyền được giúp và có thể thông tin bằng ngôn ngữ của mình miễn phí. Để nói chuyện với một thợ dịch viễn, xin gọi 877-475-4799.

Arabic: إن كان لديك أو أدى شخص تساؤل أسئلة بخصوص Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona الضرورية بلغتك من دون اية تكلفة، للتحدث مع مترجم التصل بـ 877-475-4799.
CONGENITAL PORT WINE STAIN HEMANGIOMA TREATMENT (cont.)

Multi-Language Interpreter Services: (cont.)

Tagalog: Kung ikaw, o ang iyong tinutulungan, ay may mga katanungan tungkol sa Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona, may karapatang na makakuha ng tulong at impormasyon sa iyong wika ng walang gastos. Upang makausap ang isang tagasalin, tumawag sa 877-475-4799.

Korean: 만약 귀하 또는 귀하가 돕고 있는 어떤 사람이 Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona에 관해서 질문이 있다면 귀하는 그러한 도움과 정보를 귀하의 언어로 비용 부담없이 얻을 수 있는 권리가 있습니다. 그렇게 흥미시오 877-475-4799를 전화하시십시오.

French: Si vous, ou quelqu’un que vous êtes en train d’aider, a des questions à propos de Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona, vous avez le droit d’obtenir de l’aide et l’information dans votre langue à aucun coût. Pour parler à un interprète, appelez 877-475-4799.

German: Falls Sie oder jemand, dem Sie helfen, Fragen zum Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona haben, haben Sie das Recht, kostenlose Hilfe und Informationen in Ihrer Sprache zu erhalten. Um mit einem Dolmetscher zu sprechen, rufen Sie bitte die Nummer 877-475-4799 an.

Russian: Если у вас или лица, которому вы помогаете, имеются вопросы по поводу Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona, то вы имеет право на бесплатное получение помощи и информации на вашем языке. Для разговора с переводчиком позвоните по телефону 877-475-4799.

Japanese: ご本人様、またはお客様の身の回りの方でも、Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizonaについてご質問がございましたら、ご希望の言語でサポートを受けたり、情報を入手したりすることができます。料金はかかりません。通訳とお話される場合、877-475-4799までお電話ください。

Farsi: 
آگر شما، یا کسی که شما به آن کمک می‌کنید، سوال‌های مربوط به Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona داشته باشید جهت دریافت دریافت نمایید 877-475-4799.

Assyrian:

Serbo-Croatian: Ukoiko Vi ili neko komu Vi pomažete ima pitanje o Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona, imate pravo da besplatno dobijate pomoć i informacije na vašem jeziku. Da biste razgovarali sa prevodiocem, nazovite 877-475-4799.

Thai: หากคุณ หรือคนที่คุณช่วยเหลือของคุณมีคำถามเกี่ยวกับ Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona คุณมีสิทธิ์ได้รับความช่วยเหลือและข้อมูลภาษาของคุณโดยไม่ใช่ภาษามา โทร 877-475-4799