POWER MORCELLOATION OF THE UTERUS AND PROSTATE

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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POWER MORCELLATION OF THE UTERUS AND PROSTATE (cont.)

Description:

Morcellation is the division of tissue into smaller pieces or fragments to facilitate removal of tissue. Laparoscopic power morcellators (LPMs) are medical devices used to fragment tissue to allow surgical specimens to be removed through small incisions during minimally invasive laparoscopic surgeries including uterine and prostate surgeries.

The FDA issued a safety communication 04/17/2014 discouraging the use of laparoscopic power morcellation during hysterectomy or myomectomy for the treatment of women with uterine fibroids. Per the safety communication, in women with unsuspected uterine sarcoma, the procedure could spread cancerous tissue within the abdomen and pelvis significantly worsening likelihood of long-term survival. The FDA updated its recommendation to include a boxed warning on the product labeling 11/24/2014.

Criteria:

For laser prostatectomy surgery, see BCBSAZ Medical Coverage Guideline, #O1017, “Laser Prostatectomy”.

For laparoscopic and percutaneous techniques for myolysis of uterine fibroids, see BCBSAZ Medical Coverage Guideline #O807, “Laparoscopic and Percutaneous Techniques for the Myolysis of Uterine Fibroids”.

For transcervical radiofrequency ablation of uterine fibroids, see BCBSAZ Medical Coverage Guideline, #O969, “Transcervical Radiofrequency Ablation of Uterine Fibroids”.

- Laparoscopic power morcellation in the treatment of uterine disorders 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.
POWERS MORCELLATION OF THE UTERUS AND PROSTATE (cont.)

Criteria: (cont.)

- Laparoscopic power morcellation of prostate as a stand-alone treatment of benign prostatic hypertrophy 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.

Resources:

Literature reviewed 09/26/17. We do not include marketing materials, poster boards and non-published literature in our review.

Resources prior to 09/27/16 may be requested from the BCBSAZ Medical Policy and Technology Research Department.


POWER MORCELLATION OF THE UTERUS AND PROSTATE  (cont.)

Resources:  (cont.)


POWER MORCELLATION OF THE UTERUS AND PROSTATE (cont.)

Resources: (cont.)


25. Up to Date. Differentiating Uterine Leiomyomas (Fibroids) From Uterine Sarcomas. Last updated 01/04/2017, 04/21/2015, 08/19/2014.

POWER MORCELLATION OF THE UTERUS AND PROSTATE (cont.)

Resources: (cont.)


POWER MORCELLATION OF THE UTERUS AND PROSTATE (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/file/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: Díi kwe’é atah nílíníi Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona haadá yít’éego bina’ídilkidgo éí doodago Háida bíjá aniyeedíií t’áado le’é yina’ídilkidgo beehaz’áanii hólo díí t’áá hazaad’ëhii háká a’doowolgo bee haz’a doo báah ilínígoó. Ata’ halne’ígií koij’ bich’í’ hodilíinh 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 thông dịch viên, xin gọi 877-475-4799.

Arabic: إن كان لديك أو لدى شخص تتشاركه أسلحة بخصوصية غير محصورة بعضها، يُمكنك الحصول على المساعدة والعلومات والإرشادات من دون أي تكلفة. للتحدث مع متجر التصل ب 877-475-4799.
POWER MORCELLATION OF THE UTERUS AND PROSTATE (cont.)

Multi-Language Interpreter Services: (cont.)

Tagalog: Kung ikaw, o ang ibang tao, ay may mga katanungan tungkol sa Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona, may karapatang na makakuhang tulungan ng impluwensya sa iyong wika ng walong gastos. Upang maeatas 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 귀하의 그런 도움과 정보를 귀하의 언어로 받을 수 있도록 귀하가 있습니다. 그렇게 통역사와 얘기하기 위해서는 877-475-4799로 전화하십시오.

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 имеете право на бесплатное получение помощи и информации на вашем языке. Для разговора с переводчиком позвоните по телефону 877-475-4799.

Japanese: ご紹介申し上げます、お客様の身近な方々でも、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。通話とお話しされる場合、877-475-4799までお電話ください。

Farsi:

بیشتر در مورد خدمات خدمات به اختصار، Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona اطلاعات به زبان خود را به طور رایگان دریافت نمایید 877-475-4799.

Assyrian:

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona

Serbo-Croatian: Ukoliko vi ili neko kome vi pomažete ima pitanje o Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona, imate pravo da besplatno dobijete pomoć i informacije na Vašem jeziku. Da biste razgovarali sa prevodocem, nazovite 877-475-4799.

Thai: หากคุณ ตรวจสอบความขัดแย้งเกี่ยวกับการคัดแยกของ Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona คุณสามารถติดต่อเราได้โดยตรงที่โทรศัพท์ 877-475-4799.