Medical Policy
Dynamic Posturography

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Policy Number: 263
BCBSA Reference Number: 2.01.02

Related Policies
None

Policy
Commercial Members: Managed Care (HMO and POS), PPO, and Indemnity
Medicare HMO BlueSM and Medicare PPO BlueSM Members

Dynamic posturography is INVESTIGATIONAL.

Prior Authorization Information
Pre-service approval is required for all inpatient services for all products.
See below for situations where prior authorization may be required or may not be required for outpatient services.
Yes indicates that prior authorization is required.
No indicates that prior authorization is not required.
N/A indicates that this service is primarily performed in an inpatient setting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outpatient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Managed Care (HMO and POS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commercial PPO and Indemnity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicare HMO BlueSM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medicare PPO BlueSM</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

CPT Codes / HCPCS Codes / ICD Codes
Inclusion or exclusion of a code does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement. Please refer to the member’s contract benefits in effect at the time of service to determine coverage or non-coverage as it applies to an individual member.

Providers should report all services using the most up-to-date industry-standard procedure, revenue, and diagnosis codes, including modifiers where applicable.
The following codes are included below for informational purposes only; this is not an all-inclusive list.

The following CPT code is considered investigational for Commercial Members: Managed Care (HMO and POS), PPO, Indemnity, Medicare HMO Blue and Medicare PPO Blue:

CPT Codes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CPT codes:</th>
<th>Code Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>92548</td>
<td>Computerized dynamic posturography.</td>
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</table>

Description

Complaints of imbalance are common in older individuals and contribute to the risk of falling in the elderly population. Falls are the most common cause of death and disability. Maintenance of balance is a complex physiologic process, requiring interaction of the vestibular, visual, proprioceptive/somatosensory system, and central reflex mechanisms and is influenced by the general health of the patient (i.e., muscle tone, strength, and range of motion).

Dynamic posturography tests a patient's balance control in situations intended to isolate factors that affect balance in everyday experiences. It provides quantitative information regarding the functional ability to maintain balance. The test measures an individual's balance (as measured by a force platform to calculate the movement of the patient's center of mass) while visual and somatosensory cues are altered. Dynamic posturography cannot be used to localize the site of a lesion.

Examples of dynamic posturography devices for balance control include the NeuroCom EquiTest®, Micromedical Technology devices and Vestibular Technologies. All dynamic posturography devices for balance control are considered investigational regardless of the commercial name, the manufacturer or FDA approval status.

Summary

Dynamic posturography is a method of measuring balance under controlled laboratory conditions. It can provide information on the degree of imbalance present in an individual but is not intended to diagnosis specific types of balance disorders. The evidence on dynamic posturography consists of studies on technical performance, comparisons of results in patients with balance disorders and healthy controls, and retrospective case series reporting outcomes of patients assessed with dynamic posturography as part of clinical care.

There is a lack of reference standards for dynamic posturography, which makes it difficult to determine how the results can be applied in clinical care. There is a lack of evidence on the performance characteristics of this test for clinically important conditions, such as identifying patients who are at risk of falls. There are no studies that demonstrate the clinical utility of the test, by leading to changes in management that improves health outcomes. As a result of these deficiencies in the evidence base, dynamic posturography is considered investigational for all indications.

Policy History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/2015</td>
<td>Added coding language.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/2014</td>
<td>New references added from BCBSA National medical policy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/2014</td>
<td>New references added from BCBSA National medical policy.</td>
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</table>
No changes to policy statements.


Information Pertaining to All Blue Cross Blue Shield Medical Policies
Click on any of the following terms to access the relevant information:

Medical Policy Terms of Use
Managed Care Guidelines
Indemnity/PPO Guidelines
Clinical Exception Process
Medical Technology Assessment Guidelines

References
1. Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association Technology Evaluation Center (TEC). Dynamic posturography in the assessment of vestibular dysfunction. TEC Assessments 1996;Volume 11, Tab 11.