



MASSACHUSETTS

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Medical Policy Shoulder Resurfacing

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Policy Number: 156

BCBSA Reference Number: 7.01.119A

Related Policies

- Hip Resurfacing, #[046](#)
- Reverse Shoulder Arthroplasty, #[161](#)

Policy

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

Shoulder resurfacing, including total, hemi, or partial resurfacing is considered **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.

Outpatient

Commercial Managed Care (HMO and POS)	This is not a covered service.
Commercial PPO and Indemnity	This is not a covered service.
Medicare HMO BlueSM	This is not a covered service.
Medicare PPO BlueSM	This is not a covered service.

CPT Codes / HCPCS Codes / ICD-9 Codes

The following codes are included below for informational purposes. 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.

CPT Codes

There is no specific CPT code for this service.

ICD-9 Diagnosis Codes

Investigational for all diagnoses.

Description

Resurfacing the shoulder joint is a method to treat painful shoulders without replacing the humeral head. Resurfacing of the humeral head can be accomplished with devices that provide either complete or partial coverage, and may be performed alone (hemi-resurfacing) or in combination with glenoid resurfacing (total shoulder resurfacing). The objective of resurfacing is to preserve the individual patient's normal head-neck anatomy and bone stock.

Examples of prosthetic designs for shoulder resurfacing include the Mark prosthesis from Copeland™, the Extended Articulating Surface (EAS)™ Resurfacing Heads from Biomet Manufacturing, and Global CAP™ CTA Resurfacing Shoulder Humeral Head from DePuy. All shoulder resurfacing prosthetic systems are considered investigational regardless of the commercial name, the manufacturer or FDA approval status.

Summary

For shoulder resurfacing, questions remain about the stability and durability of these prostheses, as well as the effect of partial or total humeral resurfacing on the glenoid. Controlled studies are needed to evaluate the risks and benefits of hemi- and total shoulder resurfacing in comparison with hemi- and total shoulder replacement. At the present time, evidence is insufficient to permit conclusions concerning the effect of this procedure on health outcomes. Therefore, partial resurfacing, humeral resurfacing and total shoulder resurfacing are considered investigational.

Policy History

Date	Action
11/2011-4/2012	Medical policy ICD 10 remediation: Formatting, editing and coding updates. No changes to policy statements.
6/2011	Reviewed - Medical Policy Group – Orthopedics, Rehabilitation, Rheumatology. No changes to policy statements.
7/2010	Reviewed - Medical Policy Group – Orthopedics, Rehabilitation, Rheumatology. No changes to policy statements.
3/01/10	New policy, effective 3/01/10.

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

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2. Radnay CS, Setter KJ, Chambers L et al. Total shoulder replacement compared with humeral head replacement for the treatment of primary glenohumeral osteoarthritis: a systematic review. *J Shoulder Elbow Surg* 2007; 16(4):396-402.
 3. Levy O, Copeland SA. Cementless surface replacement arthroplasty of the shoulder. 5- to 10-year results with the Copeland mark-2 prosthesis. *J Bone Joint Surg Br* 2001; 83(2):213-21.
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 7. Buchner M, Eschbach N, Loew M. Comparison of the short-term functional results after surface replacement and total shoulder arthroplasty for osteoarthritis of the shoulder: a matched-pair analysis. *Arch Orthop Trauma Surg* 2008; 128(4):347-54.
 8. Fuerst M, Fink B, R  ther W. The DUROM cup humeral surface replacement in patients with rheumatoid arthritis. *J Bone Joint Surg Am* 2007; 89(8):1756-62.
 9. Uribe JW, Bemden AB. Partial humeral head resurfacing for osteonecrosis. *J Shoulder Elbow Surg* 2009 Jan 29 [Epub ahead of print].
 10. ClinicalTrials.gov Available at: <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?term=shoulder+resurfacing>
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