



Policy Updates

Effective 09/01/2016

Allergy Testing and Therapy Policy Update

Allergy testing is performed to determine immunologic sensitivity or reaction to antigens for the purpose of identifying the cause of the allergic state. This policy addresses immediate (IgE-mediated) hypersensitivity and delayed (cell mediated) hypersensitivity. **Allergen immunotherapy** is the repeated administration of specific allergens to patients with IgE mediated conditions, for the purpose of providing protection against the allergic symptoms and inflammatory reactions associated with natural exposure to these allergens.

It is the policy of Home State Health that allergy testing and allergy immunotherapy are **medically necessary** for members with clinically significant allergic symptoms as well as other indications.

Ambulatory EEG Policy Update

In most instances, a standard EEG performed at a clinic or outpatient epilepsy facility can identify brain activity specific to seizures; however, when routine EEG is inconclusive and the clinical history strongly suggests seizure activity, an **ambulatory EEG** may be indicated.

Ambulatory EEG recordings can be utilized in the evaluation and differential diagnosis of other conditions, including cardiac arrhythmias, sleep disorders, syncope, and transient ischemic attacks, if these episodes are not diagnosed by conventional studies. It may also allow an estimate of seizure frequency, which may at times help to evaluate the effectiveness of a drug and determine its appropriate dosage.

It is the policy of Home State Health that ambulatory EEG is **medically necessary** following an inconclusive or nondiagnostic standard (awake and asleep) EEG for specific indications.



Urodynamic Testing Policy Update

Urodynamic studies are indicated only after an initial evaluation is performed that, at minimum, includes an appropriate history, physical exam, and urinalysis with microscopy. Infection, if present, should be treated and effectiveness of treatment observed before further diagnostic (urodynamic) testing or other therapeutic interventions are undertaken.

It is the policy of Home State Health that urodynamic testing is **medically necessary** to assist in the diagnosis of urologic dysfunction with specific indications.

Wheelchair Seating Policy Update

Wheelchair Seating can be a general use seat or back cushion, skin-protection seat cushion, positioning seat or back cushion, headrest, or custom fabricated seat cushion.

It is the policy of Home State Health that special wheelchair seating cushions are **medically necessary** for specific indications.

These complete policies, including comprehensive information on medical necessity, can be found on the provider page of Home State's website at www.HomeStateHealth.com. Home State Health Payment Manuals are located under Manuals in our Practice Improvement Resource Center.

➤ **Secure Portal Registration:** If you haven't already do so, please go to www.HomeStateHealth.com to register for our Secure Portal. Functions on the portal include: Verification of eligibility, submission of claims, entering authorizations, viewing patient care gaps, etc. Use of the portal is FREE for all services!

➤ **Electronic Funds Transfer / Electronic Remittance Advice**

- Home State Health Plan partners with PaySpan Health for EFT/ERA services.
- Please register with PaySpan Health at www.payspanhealth.com

Questions?

Contact Provider Relations at 1-855-694-4663.



An important
message from
Provider Relations



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