

Clinical Policy: Chemodenervation of the Eyelid

Reference Number: CP.VP.10

Last Review Date: 01/2022

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Description

Chemodenervation and neurolysis interrupt neuronal signaling are typically used to treat spasticity of focal origin. This policy describes the medical necessity requirements for chemodenervation of the eyelid.

Policy/Criteria

- I. It is the policy of health plans affiliated with Centene Corporation[®] (Centene) that chemodenervation of the eyelid is **medically necessary** for the following indications:
 - A. Blepharospasm causing visual impairment or ocular surface discomfort;
 - B. Hemifacial spasm causing visual impairment or ocular surface discomfort;
 - C. Oromandibular dystonia (Meige's Syndrome) or ocular surface discomfort;
 - D. Strabismus causing visual impairment.

- II. It is the policy of health plans affiliated with Centene that chemodenervation of the eyelid is **not medically necessary** for the following indications:
 - A. Cosmetic or aesthetic improvement;
 - B. Management of headaches.

Background

Chemodenervation refers to a blockade of neuronal signaling, while neurolysis refers to destruction of nerve tissue. In the context of spasticity treatment, chemodenervation is accomplished with botulinum toxin (BoNT), injected directly into the affected muscle, preferably as close as possible to the motor end plates. Neurolysis is accomplished with either phenol or ethyl alcohol, injected either onto a motor nerve (nerve block) or into the muscle near the motor end plates (motor point block). Most chemodenervation patients require treatment three to four times each year.

Coding Implications

This clinical policy references Current Procedural Terminology (CPT[®]). CPT[®] is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association. All CPT codes and descriptions are copyrighted 2018, American Medical Association. All rights reserved. CPT codes and CPT descriptions are from the current manuals and those included herein are not intended to be all-inclusive and are included for informational purposes only. Codes referenced in this clinical policy are for informational purposes only. Inclusion or exclusion of any codes does not guarantee coverage. Providers should reference the most up-to-date sources of professional coding guidance prior to the submission of claims for reimbursement of covered services.

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| CPT® Codes | Description |
|------------|---|
| 64612 | Chemodenervation of muscle(s); muscle(s) innervated by facial nerve, unilateral (e.g., for blepharospasm, hemifacial spasm) |

ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Codes that Support Coverage Criteria

+ Indicates a code requiring an additional character

| ICD-10-CM Code | Description |
|----------------|---|
| G24.4 | Idiopathic orofacial dystonia |
| G24.5 | Blepharospasm |
| G50.0 | Trigeminal neuralgia |
| G50.1 | Atypical facial pain |
| G50.8 | Other disorders of trigeminal nerve |
| G51.0 | Bell's palsy |
| G51.31 | Clonic hemifacial spasm, right |
| G51.32 | Clonic hemifacial spasm, left |
| G51.33 | Clonic hemifacial spasm, bilateral |
| G51.4 | Facial myokymia |
| H02.041 | Spastic entropion of right upper eyelid |
| H02.042 | Spastic entropion of right lower eyelid |
| H02.044 | Spastic entropion of left upper eyelid |
| H02.045 | Spastic entropion of left lower eyelid |
| H02.141 | Spastic ectropion of right upper eyelid |
| H02.142 | Spastic ectropion of right lower eyelid |
| H02.144 | Spastic ectropion of left upper eyelid |
| H02.045 | Spastic ectropion of left lower eyelid |
| H04.211 | Epiphora due to excess lacrimation, right lacrimal gland |
| H04.212 | Epiphora due to excess lacrimation, left lacrimal gland |
| H04.213 | Epiphora due to excess lacrimation, bilateral lacrimal glands |
| H49.01 | Third [oculomotor] nerve palsy, right eye |
| H49.02 | Third [oculomotor] nerve palsy, left eye |
| H49.03 | Third [oculomotor] nerve palsy, bilateral |
| H49.11 | Fourth [trochlear] nerve palsy, right eye |
| H49.12 | Fourth [trochlear] nerve palsy, left eye |
| H49.13 | Fourth [trochlear] nerve palsy, bilateral |
| H49.21 | Sixth [abducent] nerve palsy, right eye |
| H49.22 | Sixth [abducent] nerve palsy, left eye |
| H49.23 | Sixth [abducent] nerve palsy, bilateral |
| H49.31 | Total (external) ophthalmoplegia, right eye |
| H49.32 | Total (external) ophthalmoplegia, left eye |
| H49.33 | Total (external) ophthalmoplegia, bilateral |
| H49.41 | Progressive external ophthalmoplegia, right eye |
| H49.42 | Progressive external ophthalmoplegia, left eye |
| H49.43 | Progressive external ophthalmoplegia, bilateral |

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| ICD-10-CM Code | Description |
|----------------|--|
| H49.811 | Kearns-Sayre syndrome, right eye |
| H49.812 | Kearns-Sayre syndrome, left eye |
| H49.813 | Kearns-Sayre syndrome, bilateral |
| H49.881 | Other paralytic strabismus, right eye |
| H49.882 | Other paralytic strabismus, left eye |
| H49.883 | Other paralytic strabismus, bilateral |
| H50.011 | Monocular esotropia, right eye |
| H50.012 | Monocular esotropia, left eye |
| H50.021 | Monocular esotropia with A pattern, right eye |
| H50.022 | Monocular esotropia with A pattern, left eye |
| H50.031 | Monocular esotropia with V pattern, right eye |
| H50.032 | Monocular esotropia with V pattern, left eye |
| H50.041 | Monocular esotropia with other noncomitancies, right eye |
| H50.042 | Monocular esotropia with other noncomitancies, left eye |
| H50.05 | Alternating esotropia |
| H50.06 | Alternating esotropia with A pattern |
| H50.07 | Alternating esotropia with V pattern |
| H50.08 | Alternating esotropia with noncomitancies |
| H50.111 | Monocular exotropia, right eye |
| H50.112 | Monocular exotropia, left eye |
| H50.121 | Monocular exotropia with A pattern, right eye |
| H50.122 | Monocular exotropia with A pattern, left eye |
| H50.131 | Monocular exotropia with V pattern, right eye |
| H50.132 | Monocular exotropia with V pattern, left eye |
| H50.141 | Monocular exotropia with other noncomitancies, right eye |
| H50.142 | Monocular exotropia with other noncomitancies, left eye |
| H50.15 | Alternating exotropia |
| H50.16 | Alternating exotropia with A pattern |
| H50.17 | Alternating exotropia with V pattern |
| H50.18 | Alternating exotropia with other noncomitancies |
| H50.21 | Vertical strabismus, right eye |
| H50.22 | Vertical strabismus, left eye |
| H50.311 | Intermittent monocular esotropia, right eye |
| H50.312 | Intermittent monocular esotropia, left eye |
| H50.32 | Intermittent alternating esotropia |
| H50.331 | Intermittent monocular exotropia, right eye |
| H50.332 | Intermittent monocular exotropia, left eye |
| H50.34 | Intermittent alternating exotropia |
| H50.411 | Cyclotropia, right eye |
| H50.412 | Cyclotropia, left eye |
| H50.51 | Esophoria |
| H50.52 | Exophoria |
| H50.53 | Vertical heterophoria |

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| ICD-10-CM Code | Description |
|----------------|---|
| H50.54 | Cyclophoria |
| H50.55 | Alternating heterophoria |
| H50.611 | Brown’s sheath syndrome, right eye |
| H50.612 | Brown’s sheath syndrome, left eye |
| H50.811 | Duane’s syndrome, right eye |
| H50.812 | Duane’s syndrome, left eye |
| H51.0 | Palsy (spasm) of conjugate gaze |
| H51.11 | Convergence insufficiency |
| H51.12 | Convergence excess |
| H51.21 | Internuclear ophthalmoplegia, right eye |
| H51.22 | Internuclear ophthalmoplegia, left eye |
| H51.23 | Internuclear ophthalmoplegia, bilateral |

| Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals | Date | Approval Date |
|--|---------|---------------|
| Original approval date | 12/2019 | 12/2019 |
| Converted to new template | 04/2020 | 06/2020 |
| Annual Review; Added indications not considered medically necessary for eyelid chemodenervation; Added applicable CPT® codes; Updated references | 12/2020 | 12/2020 |
| Annual Review | 12/2021 | 01/2022 |

References

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3. Fahn S. Blepharospasm: A focal dystonia. In: Bosniak S, ed. *Advances in Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery*. Vol 4. Elsevier Science. 1985:87-91.
4. Jankovic J. Etiology and differential diagnosis of blepharospasm and oromandibular dystonia. *Adv Neurol*. 1988. 49:103-16.
5. Ababneh OH, Cetinkaya A, Kulwin DR. Long-term efficacy and safety of botulinum toxin A injections to treat blepharospasm and hemifacial spasm. *Clin Experiment Ophthalmol*. 2014 Apr. 42 (3):254-61.

Important Reminder

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical policy; and other available clinical information. The Health Plan makes no representations and accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical

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practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. “Health Plan” means a health plan that has adopted this clinical policy and that is operated or administered, in whole or in part, by Centene Management Company, LLC, or any of such health plan’s affiliates, as applicable.

The purpose of this clinical policy is to provide a guide to medical necessity, which is a component of the guidelines used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Coverage decisions and the administration of benefits are subject to all terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of the coverage documents (e.g., evidence of coverage, certificate of coverage, policy, contract of insurance, etc.), as well as to state and federal requirements and applicable Health Plan-level administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by the Health Plan. The date of posting may not be the effective date of this clinical policy. This clinical policy may be subject to applicable legal and regulatory requirements relating to provider notification. If there is a discrepancy between the effective date of this clinical policy and any applicable legal or regulatory requirement, the requirements of law and regulation shall govern. The Health Plan retains the right to change, amend or withdraw this clinical policy, and additional clinical policies may be developed and adopted as needed, at any time.

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Note: For Medicaid members, when state Medicaid coverage provisions conflict with the coverage provisions in this clinical policy, state Medicaid coverage provisions take precedence. Please refer to the state Medicaid manual for any coverage provisions pertaining to this clinical policy.

Note: For Medicare members, to ensure consistency with the Medicare National Coverage Determinations (NCD) and Local Coverage Determinations (LCD), all applicable NCDs, LCDs,

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and Medicare Coverage Articles should be reviewed prior to applying the criteria set forth in this clinical policy. Refer to the CMS website at <http://www.cms.gov> for additional information.

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