

Medical Coverage Policy | Topographic Brain Mapping



EFFECTIVE DATE: 04|20|2010

POLICY LAST REVIEWED: 02|21|2024

OVERVIEW

Topographic brain mapping (TBM) is an extension of conventional electroencephalography.

MEDICAL CRITERIA

Not applicable

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

Not applicable

POLICY STATEMENT

Medicare Advantage Plans

Topographic brain mapping is not covered as the evidence is insufficient to determine that the technology results in an improvement in the net health outcome.

Commercial Products

Topographic brain mapping is considered not medically necessary as the evidence is insufficient to determine that the technology results in an improvement in the net health outcome.

COVERAGE

Benefits may vary between groups/contracts. Please refer to the appropriate section of the Benefit Booklet, Evidence of Coverage, or Subscriber Agreement for applicable not medically necessary/not covered benefits/coverage.

BACKGROUND

TBM, sometimes referred to as brain electrical activity mapping (BEAM), involves the computerized analysis and topographic display of electroencephalogram (EEG) rhythms and evoked potential data on a color video screen. A wide assortment of maps can be created to represent different measurement patterns. The purpose of TBM is to identify patterns that distinguish pathological groups from normal ones.

There is no scientific literature to support the use of TBM, therefore, topographic brain mapping is considered not medically necessary.

CODING

Medicare Advantage Plans and Commercial Products

The following HCPCS code(s) is not covered for Medicare Advantage Plans and not medically necessary for Commercial Products:

S8040 Topographic brain mapping

RELATED POLICIES

None

PUBLISHED

Provider Update, April 2024

Provider Update, April 2023

Provider Update, July 2022

Provider Update, December 2021

Provider Update, June 2020

REFERENCES

1. American Academy of Neurology and the American Clinical Neurophysiology Society. Assessment of digital EEG, quantitative EEG, and EEG brain mapping. *Neurology*;1997;49:277-292.

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