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

MEDICAL CRITERIA
Not applicable

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION
Not applicable

POLICY STATEMENT
BlueCHiP for Medicare
Topographic brain mapping is not covered as the evidence is insufficient to determine the effects of the technology on health outcomes.

Commercial Products
Topographic brain mapping is considered not medically necessary as the evidence is insufficient to determine the effects of the technology on health outcomes.

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
BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercial Products
The following HCPCS code is not covered for BlueCHiP for Medicare and not medically necessary for Commercial Products:
S8040 Topographic brain mapping

RELATED POLICIES
Not applicable

PUBLISHED
Provider Update, June 2020
Provider Update, January 2020
Provider Update, May 2018
REFERENCES