Recombinant Human Thyrotropin

Effective 10/1/09 the benefit category will change from radiology diagnostic to pharmacy/physician administered injectable.

Description:

Recombinant human thyrotropin (Thyrogen) is a thyroid-stimulating hormone used for patients with well-differentiated thyroid cancer who have undergone a thyroidectomy. Developed as an exogenous source of thyroid stimulating hormone, Thyrogen allows patients to undergo diagnostic testing while still on thyroxine replacement, therefore, avoiding the signs and symptoms of hypothyroidism.

Medical criteria:

Not applicable.

Policy:

Thyrogen is covered as an adjunctive diagnostic tool for serum thyroglobulin testing, with or without radiiodine imaging, in the follow-up of patients with well-differentiated thyroid cancer.

Coverage:

Benefits may vary between groups/contracts. Please refer to the appropriate member certificate/subscriber agreement/Rite Care contract for applicable pharmacy/physician administered injectable benefits/coverage. No preauthorization is required.

Coding:

The following code may not be all-inclusive:

J3240 Injection, Thyrotropin Alpha, 0.9 mg, provided in 1.1 mg vial

Also known as:

Thyrogen

Related topic:

Not applicable

Published

Policy Update, March 2000
Policy Update, January 2006
Policy Update, January 2008
Provider Update, July 2009

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member which are determined to not be medically necessary (or in some cases medically necessary services which are non-covered benefits), you may not charge the member for the services unless you have informed the member and they have agreed in writing in advance to continue with the treatment at their own expense. Please refer to your participation agreement(s) for the applicable provisions.

This policy is current at the time of publication; however, medical practices, technology, and knowledge are constantly changing. BCBSRI reserves the right to review and revise this policy for any reason and at any time, with or without notice.

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