

Pancreas Transplantation

These services may or may not be covered by all HealthPartners plans. Please see your plan documents for your own coverage information. If there is a difference between this general information and your plan documents, your plan documents will be used to determine your coverage

Administrative Process

Simultaneous pancreas and kidney transplant (SPK) & Pancreas transplant after kidney (PAK)

No prior authorization required for SPK & PAK if performed at a HealthPartners Transplant Center of Excellence (COE). COE is required to notify the health plan at the time of transplant consultation.

Pancreas transplant alone (PTA)

Prior approval is required for PTA, both at a HealthPartners Transplant Center of Excellence and if requested at another transplant center.

Coverage

Simultaneous pancreas and kidney transplant (SPK) is covered.

Pancreas transplant after kidney (PAK) is covered.

Pancreas transplant alone (PTA) is covered in certain circumstances as described below.

Pancreas Transplant Alone (PTA) Eligibility Criteria

Pancreas transplant alone (PTA) without kidney transplant will generally be covered if the member meets the following criteria:

1. A history of frequent, acute and severe metabolic complications, such as hypoglycemia, hyperglycemia, or ketoacidosis requiring medical attention.
2. Clinical and emotional problems with exogenous insulin therapy that are so severe as to be incapacitating, such as hypoglycemic unawareness.
3. Consistent failure of insulin-based management to prevent acute complications.

Not Eligible for Pancreas Transplant Alone (PTA)

Pancreas transplant alone (PTA) is a complex medical treatment provided for patients that meet very specific criteria. These criteria are outlined in the medical protocol for this procedure used by the HealthPartners Center of Excellence for Transplantation. Those patients not meeting the criteria outlined by the HealthPartners Center of Excellence are not eligible for coverage for PTA.

Definitions

Simultaneous pancreas and kidney transplant (SPK) is a transplant procedure where both a kidney and the pancreas are transplanted at the same time.

Pancreas transplant after kidney (PAK) is a pancreas transplant that is done some time after the kidney transplant.

Pancreas transplant alone (PTA) is when a pancreas transplant is done without a kidney transplant.

Products

This information is for most, but not all, HealthPartners plans. Please read your plan documents to see if your plan has limits or will not cover some items. If there is a difference between this general information and your plan documents, your plan documents will be used to determine your coverage. These coverage criteria may not apply to Medicare Products if Medicare requires different coverage. For more information regarding Medicare coverage criteria or for a copy of a Medicare coverage policy, contact Member Services at 952-883-7979 or 1-800-233-9645.

Number P042-01; Medical Directors Committee Approval 06/18/01. Annual Review 06/01/06, 8/1/07, 8/1/08, 9/9/09, 5/18/10, 5/2011.