Port-wine stain treatment

These services may or may not be covered by your HealthPartners plan. Please see your plan documents for your specific 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

Prior authorization is not required for port-wine stain treatment.

Port-wine stain treatment is covered subject to Minnesota statute 62A.304.

Coverage

Port-wine stain treatment is generally covered subject to the indications listed below and per your plan documents.

For coverage of treatment of lesions other than port-wine stain – such as sanguineous nevus, strawberry nevus, facial telangiectasia, hemangioma, and other vascular abnormalities, the Hemangioma treatment and/or Cosmetic surgery/treatment policies apply. See links at right.

Indications that are covered

1. Laser therapy destruction of port wine stain (nevus flammeus).

Indications that are not covered

1. Treatments other than laser destruction, including investigative treatments, are generally not covered as they are not proven effective and/or result in poor outcomes, such as scarring.

Definitions

Port-wine stain, also called port-wine birthmark, or nevus flammeus is a red to blue discoloration of the skin present at birth that becomes darker over time. The discoloration is caused by a malformation of the capillaries and venules (small blood vessels) within the area.

Laser therapy – Lasers work by producing an intense, but gentle, burst of light that targets abnormal tissue and leaves surrounding tissue intact. Pulsed dye laser is the type of laser standardly used for the treatment of port wine stain. This laser emits short pulses of light that heat and damage the small blood vessels within the port-wine stain area. The short pulses allow for less heat to be produced, which minimizes injury to healthy tissues surrounding the port wine stain. Multiple treatments are usually needed to achieve the maximum lightening of the port-wine stain.

Codes

If available, codes for a procedure, device or diagnosis are listed below for informational purposes only, and do not guarantee member coverage or provider reimbursement. The list may not be all inclusive.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17106</td>
<td>Destruction of cutaneous vascular proliferative lesions (eg, laser technique); less than 10 sq cm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17107</td>
<td>Destruction of cutaneous vascular proliferative lesions (eg, laser technique); 10.0 to 50.0 sq cm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17108</td>
<td>Destruction of cutaneous vascular proliferative lesions (eg, laser technique); over 50.0 sq cm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICD-10-CM</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q82.5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Congenital non-neoplastic nevus (when used to describe port-wine stain, also called nevus flammeus)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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.

Benefits Committee Approval 09/23/93; Revised 07/01/99, 9/2/10; Annual Review 06/01/06, 8/1/07, 8/1/08, 9/9/09, 9/2/10, 9/2011, 9/2012, 9/2013, 9/2014, 10/2015, 9/2017, 9/2020

References

1. Galbraith, S. Capillary malformations (port wine stains) and associated syndrome. In: UpToDate, Levy, M (MD), UpToDate, Waltham, MA. (Accessed August 25, 2020)