Title: Vagus Nerve Stimulation (VNS) for Treatment Resistant Depression (TRD) (CAG-00313R2)

Decision: The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) is expanding Medicare coverage for Vagus Nerve Stimulation (VNS) for Treatment Resistant Depression (TRD). CMS will cover FDA-approved VNS devices for treatment resistant depression through Coverage with Evidence Development (CED) when offered in a CMS-approved study.

What this means: VNS for Treatment Resistant Depression (TRD) may be covered only for members enrolled in a CMS-approved clinical study. VNS is not covered for the treatment of TRD when furnished outside of a CMS-approved study. Please refer to the final decision memo for all coverage criteria.

Effective: February 15, 2019

This announcement can be found at: Decision Memo for Vagus Nerve Stimulation (VNS) for Treatment Resistant Depression (TRD) (CAG-00313R2)