GUIDELINE STATEMENT:
Texas Children's Health Plan (TCHP) performs authorization of all Surgical Breast Procedures, including prosthesis.

DEFINITIONS:

**Reconstructive Breast Procedures** rebuild the normal contour of the affected or the contralateral unaffected breast to produce a more normal appearance. They can include any or all of the following:

- Reconstructive surgery and implant insertion;
- Procedures where muscle tissue is transposed from another site;
- Reconstruction of the contralateral breast to achieve symmetry with reduction mammoplasty, augmentation mammoplasty with implants, or mastopexy;
- Revision or removal of pre-existing breast implants placed for cosmetic purposes.

**PRIOR AUTHORIZATION GUIDELINE**

1. All requests for prior authorization for Therapeutic and Reconstructive Breast Procedures are received via online submission, fax, phone or mail by the Utilization Management Department and processed during normal business hours.

2. To request prior authorization for Surgical Breast Procedures or breast prostheses, the requesting provider must submit clinical documentation of medical necessity for the requested date of service.

3. Mastectomy for pubertal gynecomastia:
   3.1 Client’s history and treatment plan including planned surgical procedure and timelines.
   3.2 Identification of which breast or breasts, require mastectomy.

4. Members over the age of 40 requesting a reduction mammoplasty, requesting physician should provide documentation of a mammogram that is negative for cancer within the past year
   4.1 Identify the location or facility where the services will be provided if applicable

5. Members 17 years of age and younger:
5.1 Prior authorization is required.

Medical Necessity for Therapeutic and Reconstructive Breast Procedures:

6. **Mastectomy or partial mastectomy** is considered medically necessary when indicated to remove a breast or portion of a breast for any of the following:

6.1 Developmental abnormality
6.2 Congenital defect
6.3 Trauma or injury to the chest wall
6.4 Primary or secondary malignancy of the breast
6.5 Carcinoma in situ of the breast
6.6 Prophylactic for members who are at moderate to high risk for the development of breast cancer as evidenced by:
   
   6.6.1 Current or previous diagnosis of breast cancer with histologic evidence of invasive disease
   6.6.2 Family history of breast cancer in mother, sister, or daughter, especially before the age of 50
   6.6.3 Presence of any of the following genetic mutations:
      
      6.6.3.1 Breast cancer gene 1 (BRCA1)
      6.6.3.2 Breast cancer gene 2 (BRCA2)
      6.6.3.3 Tumor protein 53 (TP 53)
      6.6.3.4 Phosphatase and tensin homolog (PTEN)
      6.6.3.5 Lobular carcinoma in situ (LCIS)
      6.6.3.6 Radiation therapy to the chest before a client reaches 30 years of age
      6.6.3.7 Recommendation by current National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) guidelines

6.7 **Pubertal gynecomastia** when the member meets all the following criteria:

   6.7.1 Gynecomastia classification (grade II, III, or IV) as defined by the American Society of Plastic Surgeons classification.

   6.7.2 Member is a male 20 years of age younger or has evidence that puberty is near completion, as indicated by 95 percent of adult height based on bone age and Tanner stage V has been achieved

   6.7.3 Evidence that the client has been off gynecomastia inducing drugs or other substances for a minimum of one year when this has been identified as the cause of the gynecomastia.

   6.7.4 Evidence of resolution as supported by appropriate test results and treatment for hormonal causes, including hyperthyroidism, estrogen excess, prolactinomas, and hypogonadism, for a minimum of one year when identified as the cause of the gynecomastia.

   6.7.5 Evidence of a psychiatric assessment performed by a psychiatrist or psychologist

   6.7.6 History and treatment plan including planned surgical procedure and timeline
7. **Reconstructive breast procedures** are considered medically necessary in the following situation:

7.1 Breast surgery of one or both breasts following the mastectomy of one or both breasts.

7.2 Breast surgery to alter the contour of the breast when there are significant abnormalities related to trauma, congenital defects, infection or other non-malignant disease. A specific example of this is Poland’s syndrome which may be diagnosed when all of the following are present:

7.2.1 Congenital absence or hypoplasia of pectoralis major and minor muscles; and

7.2.2 Breast hypoplasia; and

7.2.3 Congenital partial absence of the upper costal cartilage.

7.3 Removal of an implant (any type) with or without reimplantation when an implant, originally placed in an individual with a history of mastectomy, lumpectomy or treatment of breast cancer develops a visible distortion (Baker Class III contracture).

7.4 Removal of a saline-filled or "Alternative" implant with or without reimplantation when originally placed in an individual with a history of mastectomy, lumpectomy or treatment of breast cancer if it ruptures, becomes infected or when there is an inflammatory reaction to the implant.

7.5 Surgery on the contralateral breast to produce a symmetrical appearance after removal of an implant and reimplantation when the implant was originally placed in an individual with a history of mastectomy, lumpectomy or treatment of breast cancer.

8. **Reduction Mammaplasty** is considered medically necessary when current applicable Interqual criteria are met. In the event that the Interqual criteria are not met, the following indications will be used to determine medical necessity:

8.1 Individuals meet BOTH of the following criteria:

8.1.1 Presence of one or more of the following that has persisted for at least one year:

8.1.1.1 Cervical or thoracic pain syndrome (upper back and shoulder pain); or

8.1.1.2 Submammary intertrigo that is refractory to conventional medications and measures used to treat intertrigo, or shoulder grooving with ulceration unresponsive to conventional therapy; or

8.1.1.3 Thoracic outlet syndrome (to include ulnar paresthesias from breast size) that has not responded to at least three (3) months of adequate conservative treatment.

8.1.2 The preoperative evaluation by the surgeon concludes that an appropriate amount of breast tissue, per breast, will be removed and based upon the body surface area of the patient and that there is a reasonable prognosis of symptomatic relief. The request for surgery must include: the individual's height and weight; the size and shape of the breast(s) causing symptoms; the anticipated amount of breast tissue to be removed.

8.1.2.1 The minimum weight of tissue expected to be removed from a single breast with consideration to height and weight is as follows:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Height /ft</th>
<th>Weight /lbs</th>
<th>Average grams of tissue per breast to be removed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 5'</td>
<td>Less than 140lbs</td>
<td>300 grams per breast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5’-5’.4”</td>
<td>Up to 180</td>
<td>350 grams per breast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5’.4”-5’.7”</td>
<td>Up to 220</td>
<td>400 grams per breast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5’.7”-up</td>
<td>211lbs and up</td>
<td>500 grams per breast</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8.1.2.2 Any member who is anticipated to have at least 1 kg of breast tissue removed from each breast qualifies as having an expected appropriate amount of tissue to be removed.

9. External breast prostheses are considered medically necessary for any female member with a history of a medically necessary mastectomy.

10. Requests that do not meet the criteria established by this guideline will be referred to a TCHP Medical Director/Physician Reviewer for review and the Denial Policy will be followed.

11. Preauthorization is based on medical necessity and not a guarantee of benefits or eligibility. Even if preauthorization is approved for treatment or a particular service, that authorization applies only to the medical necessity of treatment or service. All services are subject to benefit limitations and exclusions. Providers are subject to State and Federal Regulatory compliance and failure to comply may result in retrospective audit and potential financial recoupment.

REFERENCES:

Government Agency, Medical Society, and Other Publications:


Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). National Coverage Determination: Breast reconstruction following mastectomy. NCD #140.2. Effective January 1, 1997; revised October 3,


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