

# MEDICAL POLICY

MEDICAL POLICY DETAILS	
Medical Policy Title	Vitreotomy Chair/Face-down Positioning System
Policy Number	1.01.52
Category	Contract Clarification
Original Effective Date	04/24/14
Committee Approval Date	04/24/14
Current Effective Date	04/18/24
Archived Date	04/23/15
Archive Review Date	04/28/16, 04/27/17, 04/26/18, 04/25/19, 04/16/20, 04/22/21, 04/21/22, 04/20/23, 04/18/24
Product Disclaimer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Services are contract dependent; if a product excludes coverage for a service, it is not covered, and medical policy criteria do not apply.</li> <li>• If a commercial product (including an Essential Plan or Child Health Plus product), medical policy criteria apply to the benefit.</li> <li>• If a Medicaid product covers a specific service, and there are no New York State Medicaid guidelines (eMedNY) criteria, medical policy criteria apply to the benefit.</li> <li>• If a Medicare product (including Medicare HMO-Dual Special Needs Program (DSNP) product) covers a specific service, and there is no national or local Medicare coverage decision for the service, medical policy criteria apply to the benefit.</li> <li>• If a Medicare HMO-Dual Special Needs Program (DSNP) product DOES NOT cover a specific service, please refer to the Medicaid Product coverage line.</li> </ul>

## POLICY STATEMENT

- I. Based upon our criteria and assessment of the peer-reviewed literature, use of a vitrectomy chair or face-down support system has been medically proven to be effective and, therefore, is considered **medically appropriate** following vitrectomy surgery, if a face-down position is required.

## POLICY GUIDELINES

- I. The member's subscriber contract or rider thereto must provide coverage for durable medical equipment.
- II. Benefits for a vitrectomy chair/face-down support system are provided through rental only.

## DESCRIPTION

A vitrectomy is the surgical removal of the vitreous humor and is performed to clear blood and debris from the eye, to remove scar tissue, or to alleviate traction on the retina. At the completion of the surgery, gas or silicone oil may be injected into the eye, creating a bubble for retinal tamponade in order to keep the retina in place. As the retina is located in the back of the eye, recovering patients may be required to maintain a face-down position in order for the bubble to effectively apply pressure to the area, to enhance healing. The pressure allows the retina to re-bond with the eye wall, while new vitreous forms and replaces the bubble. Common indications for vitrectomy include macular hole repair, detached retina, vitreous hemorrhage, macular pucker, macular edema, diabetic retinopathy, and trauma.

A vitrectomy chair or face-down support system is designed for use by patients who have undergone vitrectomy surgery and assists with maintaining the face-down positioning requirement. Some patients may require the position for only a day, while others may have to maintain several hours daily of a face-down position for as long as three weeks.

## RATIONALE

A face-down vitrectomy system can assist in the maintenance of a face-down position, postoperatively, for those patients whose surgeon has recommended the device. Many patients are more readily able to comply with the strict positioning

## Medical Policy: Vitrectomy Chair/Face-Down Positioning System

Policy Number: 1.01.52

Page: 2 of 4

requirements when utilizing the device. Some studies have demonstrated better outcomes in healing utilizing face-down positioning.

### CODES

- Eligibility for reimbursement is based upon the benefits set forth in the member's subscriber contract.
- CODES MAY NOT BE COVERED UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES. PLEASE READ THE POLICY AND GUIDELINES STATEMENTS CAREFULLY.
- Codes may not be all inclusive as the AMA and CMS code updates may occur more frequently than policy updates.
- Code Key: Experimental/Investigational = (E/I), Not medically necessary/appropriate = (NMN).

#### CPT Codes

Code	Description
	There is no specific CPT code

Copyright © 2024 American Medical Association, Chicago, IL

#### HCPCS Codes

Code	Description
	There is no specific HCPCS code; E1399 (durable medical equipment, miscellaneous) may be billed.

#### ICD10 Codes

Code	Description
E10.311	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with unspecified diabetic retinopathy with macular edema
E11.311	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with unspecified diabetic retinopathy with macular edema
E10.319	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with unspecified diabetic retinopathy without macular edema
E11.319	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with unspecified diabetic retinopathy without macular edema
E10.329	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema
E11.329	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema
E10.339	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema
E11.339	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema
E10.349	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema
E11.349	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema
E10.359	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema
E11.359	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema
H33.001- H33.009	Unspecified retinal detachment with retinal break (code range)
H33.011- H33.019	Retinal detachment with single break (code range)

## Medical Policy: Vitrectomy Chair/Face-Down Positioning System

Policy Number: 1.01.52

Page: 3 of 4

Code	Description
H33.021- H33.029	Retinal detachment with multiple breaks (code range)
H33.031- H33.039	Retinal detachment with giant retinal tear (code range)
H33.041- H33.049	Retinal detachment with retinal dialysis (code range)
H33.051- H33.059	Total retinal detachment (code range)
H33.20-H33.23	Serous retinal detachment (code range)
H33.40-H33.43	Traction detachment of retina (code range)
H33.8	Other retinal detachments
H35.351- H35.359	Cystoid macular degeneration (code range)
H35.371- H35.379	Puckering of macula (code range)
H35.721- H35.729	Serous detachment of retinal pigment epithelium (code range)
H35.731- H35.739	Hemorrhagic detachment of retinal pigment epithelium (code range)
H35.81	Retinal edema
H43.10-H43.13	Vitreous hemorrhage (code range)

## REFERENCES

\*Alberti M, et al. Face-down positioning versus non-supine positioning in macular hole surgery. Br J Ophthalmol 2015 Feb;99(2):236-9.

American Academy of Ophthalmology Retina Panel. Preferred practice Pattern Guidelines. Idiopathic macular hole. 2019 [<https://www.aaopt.org/preferred-practice-pattern/idiopathic-macular-hole-ppp>] accessed 03/04/24.

\*Conart JB, et al. Outcomes of macular hole surgery with short-duration positioning in highly myopic eyes: a case-control study. Ophthalmology 2014 Jun;121(6):1263-8.

Cundy O, et al. Face-down positioning or posturing after macular hole surgery. Cochrane Database Syst Rev 2023 Nov;11(11):CD008228.

\*Dhawahir-Scala FE, et al. To posture or not to posture after macular hole surgery. Retina 2008 Jan;28(1):60-5.

\*Feist RM Jr, et al. Nonsupine positioning is preferred by patients over face-down positioning and provides an equivalent closure rate in 25- and 23-gauge macular hole surgery. Retin Cases Brief Rep 2014 Summer;8(3):205-8.

\*Gupta D. Face-down posturing after macular hole surgery: a review. Retina 2009 Apr;29(4):430-43.

\*Heffez JL. Macular hole repair without face-down positioning. Int Ophthalmol Clin 2014 Spring;54(2):1-15.

\*Solebo AL, et al. Face-down positioning or posturing after macular hole surgery. Cochrane Database Syst Rev 2011 Dec 7;(12):CD008228.

\*Yamashita T, et al. Individualized, spectral domain-optical coherence tomography-guided facedown posturing after macular hole surgery: minimizing treatment burden and maximizing outcome. Retina 2014 Jul;34(7):1367-75.

**Medical Policy: Vitrectomy Chair/Face-Down Positioning System**

**Policy Number: 1.01.52**

**Page: 4 of 4**

Ye T, et al. Macular hole surgery recovery with and without face-down posturing: a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials. BMC Ophthalmol 2019 Dec 21;19(1):265.

\*Key Article

**KEY WORDS**

Face-down Support System, Vitrectomy Chair, Vitrectomy Recovery Solutions, Vitrectomy Solution Day Timer System Seat

**CMS COVERAGE FOR MEDICARE PRODUCT MEMBERS**

Based upon our review, a vitrectomy chair/face-down support system is not addressed in National or Regional CMS coverage determinations or policies.