



# Clinical Policy: Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy

Reference Number: WA.CP.MP.27

Date of Last Revision:

Effective Date: 10/01/25

[Coding Implications](#)

[Revision Log](#)

See [Important Reminder](#) at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

## Description

This policy describes the medical necessity guidelines for hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) for wound care, treatment of central nervous system condition and sudden sensorineural hearing loss in Ambetter members/enrollees.

## Policy/Criteria

- I. It is the policy of Coordinated Care Corporation, in accordance with the Health Care Authority (HCA) Health Technology Assessment, that hyperbaric oxygen therapy is considered **medically necessary** for any of the following conditions:
  - A. Crush injuries and suturing of severed limbs; as an adjunct when loss of function, limb, or life is threatened.
  - B. Compromised skin grafts and flaps (not for primary management of wounds)
  - C. Chronic refractory osteomyelitis unresponsive to conventional medical and surgical management
  - D. Osteoradionecrosis; as an adjunct to conventional treatment
  - E. Prevention of osteoradionecrosis associated with tooth extraction in a radiated field
  - F. Soft tissue radio-necrosis; as an adjunct to conventional treatment
  - G. Diabetic wounds when all three of the following criteria are met:
    - i. Type I or Type II diabetes and a lower extremity wound that is due to diabetes,
    - ii. Wound is classified as Wagner grade III or higher, and
    - iii. Failure of adequate course of standard wound therapy.
  - H. Idiopathic sudden sensorineural hearing loss (SSNHL) and acute acoustic trauma (AAT) when the following criteria are met:
    - i. Moderate to severe hearing loss, and
    - ii. Treatment must start within 30 days of onset.
- II. It is the policy of Coordinated Care Corporation, in accordance with the Health Care Authority (HCA) Billing Guidelines, that hyperbaric oxygen therapy is considered **not medically necessary** for:
  - A. Traumatic or chronic brain injury
  - B. Cerebral palsy
  - C. Multiple sclerosis
  - D. Migraine or cluster headaches
  - E. Acute or chronic sensorineural hearing loss
  - F. Thermal burns
  - G. Arterial, venous or pressure ulcers.

### Background

This policy is based on Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) Health Technology Assessment (HTA).

### Coding Implications

This clinical policy references Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®). CPT® is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association. All CPT codes and descriptions are copyrighted 2019, American Medical Association. All rights reserved. CPT codes and CPT descriptions are from the current manuals and those included herein are not intended to be all-inclusive and are included for informational purposes only. Codes referenced in this clinical policy are for informational purposes only. Inclusion or exclusion of any codes does not guarantee coverage. Providers should reference the most up-to-date sources of professional coding guidance prior to the submission of claims for reimbursement of covered services.

CPT® Codes	Description
99183	Physician attendance and supervision of hyperbaric oxygen therapy, per session

HCPCS Codes	Description
G0277	Hyperbaric oxygen under pressure, full body chamber, per 30 minute interval

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Revision Date	Approval Date
Policy developed to include HTA coverage of SSHL	8/25	8/25

### References

1. Hayes, Inc. *Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy for Tissue Damage, Including Wound Care and Treatment of Central Nervous System Conditions*. Washington State Health Care Authority. 2013 Feb 15.
2. Washington State Health Care Authority. Health Technology Clinical Committee. *Final Findings and Decision: Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy for Tissue Damage, Including Wound Care and Treatment of Central Nervous System Conditions*, revised June 13, 2025. [Health Technology Clinical Committee Revised Final Findings](#)
3. Washington State Health Care Authority. Health Technology Clinical Committee. *Final Findings and Decision: Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy for Sudden Sensorineural Hearing Loss*. June 13, 2025. [Health Technology Clinical Committee Final Findings and Decision HBOT SSNHL](#)

### Important Reminder

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical

policy; and other available clinical information. The Health Plan makes no representations and accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. “Health Plan” means a health plan that has adopted this clinical policy and that is operated or administered, in whole or in part, by Centene Management Company, LLC, or any of such health plan’s affiliates, as applicable.

The purpose of this clinical policy is to provide a guide to medical necessity, which is a component of the guidelines used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Coverage decisions and the administration of benefits are subject to all terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of the coverage documents (e.g., evidence of coverage, certificate of coverage, policy, contract of insurance, etc.), as well as to state and federal requirements and applicable Health Plan-level administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by the Health Plan. The date of posting may not be the effective date of this clinical policy. This clinical policy may be subject to applicable legal and regulatory requirements relating to provider notification. If there is a discrepancy between the effective date of this clinical policy and any applicable legal or regulatory requirement, the requirements of law and regulation shall govern. The Health Plan retains the right to change, amend or withdraw this clinical policy, and additional clinical policies may be developed and adopted as needed, at any time.

This clinical policy does not constitute medical advice, medical treatment or medical care. It is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine. Providers are expected to exercise professional medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care, and are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of members/enrollees. This clinical policy is not intended to recommend treatment for members/enrollees. Members/Enrollees should consult with their treating physician in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

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**Note: For Medicaid members/enrollees**, when state Medicaid coverage provisions conflict with the coverage provisions in this clinical policy, state Medicaid coverage provisions take precedence. Please refer to the state Medicaid manual for any coverage provisions pertaining to this clinical policy.



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