


MEDICAL POLICY	Auricular Electrostimulation (Medicare Only)
Effective Date: 5/1/2021  5/1/2021	Medical Policy Number: 108 Medical Policy Committee Approved Date: 3/2020; 4/2021
Medical Officer Date	

See Policy CPT/HCPCS CODE section below for any prior authorization requirements

SCOPE:

Providence Health Plan, Providence Health Assurance, Providence Plan Partners, and Ayin Health Solutions as applicable (referred to individually as “Company” and collectively as “Companies”).

APPLIES TO:

Medicare Only

MEDICARE POLICY CRITERIA

The following Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Service (CMS) guidelines should be utilized for medical necessity coverage determinations. Click the link provided in the table below to access applicable medical necessity criteria. All listed guidelines apply.

Service	Medicare Guidelines
<i>Auricular Electrostimulation</i>	<p>These devices provide a variant of acupuncture known as “electro acupuncture”. According to the following NCDs, Medicare does not cover all forms of acupuncture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Acupuncture (30.3)¹ National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Acupuncture for Fibromyalgia (30.3.1)² National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Acupuncture for Osteoarthritis (30.3.2)³

BILLING GUIDELINES

The HCPCS S8930 code is the only code that may be used to bill auricular electrostimulation.

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CPT codes 97813 or 97814 are not specific to auricular electrostimulation, therefore, if they are billed for this service they will be denied.

CPT/HCPCS CODES

Medicare Only	
Not Covered	
S8930	Electrical stimulation of auricular acupuncture points; each 15 minutes of personal one-on-one contact with the patient
<p>Unlisted Codes</p> <p>All unlisted codes will be reviewed for medical necessity, correct coding, and pricing at the claim level. If an unlisted code is billed related to services addressed in this policy then it will be denied as not covered.</p>	
E1399	Durable medical equipment, miscellaneous

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

Company Medical Policies serve as guidance for the administration of plan benefits. Medical policies do not constitute medical advice nor a guarantee of coverage. Company Medical Policies are reviewed annually and are based upon published, peer-reviewed scientific evidence and evidence-based clinical practice guidelines that are available as of the last policy update. The Companies reserve the right to determine the application of Medical Policies and make revisions to Medical Policies at any time. Providers will be given at least 60-days notice of policy changes that are restrictive in nature.

The scope and availability of all plan benefits are determined in accordance with the applicable coverage agreement. Any conflict or variance between the terms of the coverage agreement and Company Medical Policy will be resolved in favor of the coverage agreement.

REGULATORY STATUS

Mental Health Parity Statement

Coverage decisions are made on the basis of individualized determinations of medical necessity and the experimental or investigational character of the treatment in the individual case. In cases where medical necessity is not established by policy for specific treatment modalities, evidence not previously considered regarding the efficacy of the modality that is presented shall be given consideration to determine if the policy represents current standards of care.

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REFERENCES

1. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. National Coverage Determination (NCD) for for Acupuncture (30.3). <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/ncd-details.aspx?NCDId=11>. Accessed 2/26/2021.
2. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. National Coverage Determination (NCD) for for Acupuncture for Fibromyalgia (30.3.1). <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/ncd-details.aspx?NCDId=283>. Accessed 2/26/2021.
3. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. National Coverage Determination (NCD) for for Acupuncture for Osteoarthritis (30.3.2). <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/ncd-details.aspx?NCDId=284>. Accessed 2/26/2021.