



MEDICAL POLICY STATEMENT OHIO MEDICAID

Policy Name	Policy Number	Date Effective	
Tumor Treatment Field Devices for Glioblastoma Multiforme	MM-1224	11/15/2021-10/31/2022	
Policy Type			
MEDICAL	Administrative	Pharmacy	Reimbursement

Medical Policy Statement prepared by CareSource and its affiliates are derived from literature based on and supported by clinical guidelines, nationally recognized utilization and technology assessment guidelines, other medical management industry standards, and published MCO clinical policy guidelines. Medically necessary services include, but are not limited to, those health care services or supplies that are proper and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of disease, illness, or injury and without which the patient can be expected to suffer prolonged, increased or new morbidity, impairment of function, dysfunction of a body organ or part, or significant pain and discomfort. These services meet the standards of good medical practice in the local area, are the lowest cost alternative, and are not provided mainly for the convenience of the member or provider. Medically necessary services also include those services defined in any Evidence of Coverage documents, Medical Policy Statements,

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A. Subject

Tumor Treatment Field Devices for Glioblastoma Multiforme (GBM)

B. Background

Glioblastoma Multiforme is the most common central nervous system malignancy of the brain in adults, with an average onset age between 55 to 60 years. The incidence rate between 2010 and 2014 was 29.2 per 100,000 in adults, and 5.81 per 100,000 in children. Management of the disease follows a combined-modality approach, including: adjuvant postoperative radiation therapy and adjuvant chemotherapy following initial surgery. Surgery remains the mainstay of treatment in order to remove as much tumor as possible while preserving surrounding brain tissue required for normal brain function. Despite tumor debulking measures, glioblastoma tumors infiltrate surrounding tissues creating little success for removal of the entire tumor (AANS, 2020). Glioblastoma has a high rate of recurrence and poor overall survival rate even with optimum therapy treatments. Most patients live one - two years after initial diagnosis.

Tumor treating field devices (TTF) are the novel method of cancer treatment involving emitting alternating electric fields to disrupt the rapid cell division exhibited by cancer cells. This treatment first became available in 2011 to treat recurrent glioblastoma. TTF is considered safe with no systemic toxicity observed and only mild to moderate side effects (reported in 1-2% of patients) involving the skin beneath transducer arrays. Patients are required to wear the device at least eighteen hours a day for effectiveness and minimum treatment duration is four weeks. Randomized trial results suggest the device improves overall survival when combined with monthly temozolomide in patients with newly diagnosed glioblastoma in the post radiation setting.

C. Definitions

- Medically Necessary - “The evaluation of health care services to determine if they are medically appropriate and necessary to meet basic health needs; consistent with the diagnosis or condition and rendered in a cost-effective manner; and consistent with national medical practice guidelines regarding type, frequency, and duration of treatment.”
- Tumor Treatment Fields (TTF) -

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