

Department of Origin:	Effective Date:
Integrated Healthcare Services	04/05/24
Approved by:	Date Approved:
Medical Policy Quality Management Subcommittee	06/06/23
Clinical Policy Document:	Replaces Effective Clinical Policy Dated:
Clinical Policy Document: Hyperhidrosis Surgery	Replaces Effective Clinical Policy Dated: 09/28/23
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PURPOSE:

The intent of this clinical policy is to ensure services are medically necessary.

Please refer to the member's benefit document for specific information. To the extent there is any inconsistency between this policy and the terms of the member's benefit plan or certificate of coverage, the terms of the member's benefit plan document will govern.

POLICY:

Benefits must be available for health care services. Health care services must be ordered by a provider. Health care services must be medically necessary, applicable conservative treatments must have been tried, and the most cost-effective alternative must be requested for coverage consideration.

Health care services that are *cosmetic* are not considered medically necessary and therefore, not eligible for coverage.

Health care services that are *reconstructive* (ie, performed for an injury, sickness, congenital disease or anomaly) causing a *functional defect/physical impairment* or clinically significant distress or impairment are not considered cosmetic.

GUIDELINES:

Medical Necessity Criteria – must satisfy any of the following: I – III

- Aspirus, Inc. Employee Health Plan (Group Plan Number ASP20000) Member has intractable, disabling palmar, plantar and/or axillary primary hyperhidrosis - musts satisfy all of the following: A – C.
 - A. Request is for any of the following routine hyperhidrosis surgery procedures: 1-9
 - 1. Endoscopic sympathetic ablation by electrocautery
 - 2. Endoscopic thoracic sympathectomy
 - 3. Excision of axillary sweat glands
 - 4. Lumbar sympathectomy
 - 5. Open thoracic sympathectomy
 - 6. Thoracoscopic sympathectomy
 - 7. Tumescent or ultrasonic liposuction for axillary hyperhidrosis
 - 8. Video-assisted endoscopic thoracic ganglionectomy
 - 9. Video-assisted thoracic sympathectomy (VATS)



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- B. Presence of a functional defect/physical impairment must satisfy any of the following: 1 3
 - 1. A chronic medical complication or condition is present, such as, but not limited to, skin maceration with secondary bacterial infections, fungal or candidal conditions, dermatitis, or other skin disease; or
 - 2. A significant interference with activities of daily living; or
 - 3. Requests for hyperhidrosis causing a psychological condition must have documentation from a mental health professional supporting that the member's clinical condition meets the diagnostic criteria for a DSM mental disorder diagnosis (eg, anxiety disorder, major depressive disorder, gender dysphoria, body dysmorphic disorder) causing clinically significant distress or impairment as evidenced by validated scales and measures must satisfy the following: a or b, and c
 - Clinically significant distress is defined as a score of 2 standard deviations (SD) from the mean, by a disorder-specific symptom rating scale such as the Appearance Anxiety Inventory; or
 - b. Clinically significant impairment is defined as a World Health Organization Disability Schedule (WHODAS) General Disability Score (GDS) of 2.6 using the current 0-4 scoring convention. (See Attachment A); and
 - c. Where applicable, there must be documentation that the member has not responded, is intolerant to, or a poor candidate for other appropriate or conservative treatments for the member's clinical condition (eq. psychotherapy).
- C. The member must have exhausted conservative treatment options, as applicable must satisfy all of the following: 1-4
 - 1. Failure of or inability to tolerate 20% aluminum chloride topical agent; and
 - 2. Failure of or inability to tolerate botulinum toxin for primary axillary, palmar or plantar hyperhidrosis; and
 - 3. Failure of or inability to tolerate iontophoresis for primary axillary, palmar or plantar hyperhidrosis; and
 - 4. Failure of or inability to tolerate oral prescription medications, such as, but not limited to, anticholinergics, beta-blockers, and benzodiazepines.
- II. ETF Health Plan (Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds) Member has intractable, disabling palmar, plantar and/or axillary *primary hyperhidrosis* musts satisfy all of the following: A C
 - A. Request is for any of the following routine hyperhidrosis surgery procedures: 1 9
 - 1. Endoscopic sympathetic ablation by electrocautery
 - 2. Endoscopic thoracic sympathectomy
 - 3. Excision of axillary sweat glands



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- 4. Lumbar sympathectomy
- 5. Open thoracic sympathectomy
- 6. Thoracoscopic sympathectomy
- 7. Tumescent or ultrasonic liposuction for axillary hyperhidrosis
- 8. Video-assisted endoscopic thoracic ganglionectomy
- 9. Video-assisted thoracic sympathectomy (VATS)
- B. Presence of a functional defect/physical impairment must satisfy any of the following: 1 or 2
 - 1. A chronic medical complication or condition is present, such as, but not limited to, skin maceration with secondary bacterial infections, fungal or candidal conditions, dermatitis, or other skin disease; or
 - 2. A significant interference with activities of daily living.
- C. The member must have exhausted conservative treatment options, as applicable must satisfy all of the following: 1-4
 - 1. Failure of or inability to tolerate 20% aluminum chloride topical agent; and
 - 2. Failure of or inability to tolerate botulinum toxin for primary axillary, palmar or plantar hyperhidrosis; and
 - 3. Failure of or inability to tolerate iontophoresis for primary axillary, palmar or plantar hyperhidrosis; and
 - 4. Failure of or inability to tolerate oral prescription medications, such as, but not limited to, anticholinergics, beta-blockers, and benzodiazepines.
- III. All other plans/groups The Plan excludes coverage for surgical services for the treatment of excessive sweating (hyperhidrosis).

EXCLUSIONS (not limited to):

Refer to member's Certificate of Coverage or Summary Plan Description.

DEFINITIONS:

Activities of Daily Living (ADL):

Activities related to personal self-care and independent living, which include eating, bathing, dressing, transferring, walking/mobility, and toileting/continence.

Cosmetic:

Services, medications and procedures that improve physical appearance but do not correct or improve a physiological function or are not medically necessary.



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DSM:

The most current edition of the American Psychiatric Association Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Health Disorders.

Functional Defect/ Physical Impairment:

A functional defect or physical/physiological impairment causes deviation from the normal function of a tissue or organ. This results in a significantly limited, impaired, or delayed capacity to move, coordinate actions, or perform physical activities and is exhibited by difficulties in one or more of the following areas: physical and motor tasks; independent movement; performing activities of daily living.

Hyperhidrosis:

Hyperhidrosis is a relatively uncommon condition of exaggerated perspiration due to excessive secretion of the exocrine sweat glands in amounts greater than required for physiologic needs of thermoregulation and electrolyte alteration. It consists of primary hyperhidrosis and secondary hyperhidrosis.

Mental Health Professional:

Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker, Licensed Psychologist, Psychiatric Advanced Practice Provider, Psychiatrist.

Primary Hyperhidrosis (essential or idiopathic hyperhidrosis):

Primary Hyperhidrosis is caused by an overactive sympathetic nervous system. A variety of interventions are available including topical therapy with aluminum chloride, pharmacotherapy including botulinum toxin, iontophoresis, and transthoracic sympathectomy.

Reconstructive:

Surgery to restore or correct:

- 1. A defective body part when such defect is incidental to or resulting from injury, sickness, or prior surgery of the involved body part; or
- 2. A covered dependent child's congenital disease or anomaly which has resulted in a functional defect as determined by a physician.

Secondary Hyperhidrosis:

Excess sweating is due to a medical condition, eg, diabetes, menopause hot flashes, thyroid disorder, infection.

BACKGROUND:

Hyperhidrosis can be classified as either primary (aka essential or idiopathic) or secondary. *Primary hyperhidrosis* is due to an overactive sympathetic nervous system which may lead to profuse sweating in different locations of the body, while *secondary hyperhidrosis* is caused by an underlying condition and usually affects the entire body.

Requests for treatment of *secondary hyperhidrosis*, and other types of *primary hyperhidrosis* besides palmar and axillary require case review.



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Prior Authorization: Yes, per network provider agreement.

CODING:

CPT®

11450 Excision of skin and subcutaneous tissue for hidradenitis, axillary; with simple or intermediate repair

11451 Excision of skin and subcutaneous tissue for hidradenitis, axillary; with complex repair

32664 Thoracoscopy, surgical; with thoracic sympathectomy

64802 Sympathectomy, cervical

64804 Sympathectomy, cervicothoracic

64809 Sympathectomy, thoracolumbar

64818 Sympathectomy, lumbar

64823 Sympathectomy, superficial; palmar arch

ICD-10 Diagnosis codes L74.510-L74.519, L74.52

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REFERENCES:

- 1. Integrated Healthcare Services Process Manual: UR015 Use of Medical Policy and Criteria
- 2. Clinical Policy: Coverage Determination Guidelines (MP/C009)
- 3. Clinical Policy: Cosmetic Procedures/Treatments (MP/C002)
- 4. Clinical Policy: Reconstructive Surgery (MP/R002)
- Medscape. Surgical Treatment of Axillary Hyperhidrosis. 2019. Retrieved from https://emedicine.medscape.com/article/1296530-overview. Accessed 03-06-24.
- 6. Smith CC, & Pariser D. Primary focal hyperhidrosis. (Topic 5567 Version 29.0; last updated: 12-01-22) In: Ofori AO, ed. *UpToDate*. Waltham, Mass.: UpToDate; 2020. www.uptodate.com. Accessed 03-06-24.
- 7. Veale D, Eshkevari E, Kanakam N, Ellison N, Dosta A, Werner T. The Appearance Anxiety Inventory: validation of a process measure in the treatment of body dysmorphic disorder. *Behav Cogn Psychother* 2014 Sep;42(5):605-16.
- 8. American Psychiatric Association: Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition. Arlington, VA, American Psychiatric Association, 2013.

DOCUMENT HISTORY:

Created Date: 11/02

Reviewed Date: 04/19/10, 03/21/13, 03/21/14, 03/20/15, 03/18/16, 03/17/17, 03/16/18, 03/15/19,

03/03/20, 03/03/21, 03/03/22, 02/28/23

Revised Date: 01/25/05, 03/28/06, 05/22/07, 06/24/08, 05/11/09, 04/18/11, 03/23/12, 03/20/15,

03/24/17, 04/11/18, 03/12/20, 08/04/23, 02/28/24



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Attachment A

WHODAS 2.0, 12-items

12-item World Health Organization Disability Assessment Schedule.

In the past 30 days, how much difficulty did you have in. . .

(0) None. (1) Mild. (2) Moderate. (3) Severe. (4) Extreme/Cannot do.

- 1. Standing for long periods such as 30 minutes?
- 2. Taking care of your household responsibilities?
- 3. Learning a new task, for example, learning how to get to a new place?
- 4. How much of a problem did you have in joining in community activities (for example, festivities, religious or other activities) in the same way as anyone else can?
- 5. How much have you been emotionally affected by your health problems?
- 6. Concentrating on doing something for ten minutes?
- 7. Walking a long distance such as a kilometre (or equivalent)?
- 8. Washing your whole body?
- 9. Getting dressed?
- 10. Dealing with people you do not know?
- 11. Maintaining a friendship?
- 12. Your day-to-day work?

The World Health Organisation Disability Assessment

The World Health Organisation Disability Assessment Schedule, WHODAS 2.0, 12 items, can be found at: https://www.who.int/standards/classifications/international-classification-of-functioning-disability-and-health/who-disability-assessment-

schedule#:~:text=Scoring&text=Simple%3A%20the%20scores%20assigned%20to,(4)%20%E2%80%93%20are%20summed.

General Disability Score

- < 1.0 = Little or no impairment
- 1.0 to 1.9 = Mild
- 2.0 to 2.9 = Moderate
- 3.0 to 3.9 = Severe
- 4.0 = Extreme or cannot do

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PreferredOne Community Health Plan ("PCHP") complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. PCHP does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

Provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:

- Qualified sign language interpreters
- Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats)

Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:

- Qualified interpreters
- Information written in other languages

If you need these services, contact a Grievance Specialist.

If you believe that PCHP has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with:

Grievance Specialist PreferredOne Community Health Plan PO Box 59052 Minneapolis, MN 55459-0052 Phone: 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013) Fax: 763.847.4010

customerservice@preferredone.com

You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a grievance, a Grievance Specialist is available to help you.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf, or by mail or phone at:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 200 Independence Avenue, SW Room 509F, HHH Building Washington, D.C. 20201 1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)

Complaint forms are available at http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html.

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ATTENTION: If you do not speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013). ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013) LUS CEEV: Yog tias koj hais lus Hmoob, cov kev pab txog lus, muaj kev pab dawb rau koj. Hu rau 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013). XIYYEEFFANNAA: Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013). CHÚ Ý: Nếu ban nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho ban. Goi số 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013). 注意:如果您使用繁體中文,您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013)。 ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните 1.800.940.5049 (телетайп: 763.847.4013). ໂປດຊາບ: ຖ້າວ່າ ທ່ານເວົ້າພາສາ ລາວ, ການບໍລິການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອດ້ານພາສາ, ໂດຍບໍ່ເສັຽຄ່າ, ແມ່ນມີພ້ອມໃຫ້ທ່ານ. ໂທຣ 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013). ማስታወሻ: የሚናንሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያግዝዎት ተዘጋጀተዋል፡ ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ 1.800.940.5049 (መስጣት ለተሳናቸው: 763.847.4013). ဟ်သူ၌ဟ်သး– နမ့်ကတိ၊ ကညီ ကျို်အယိ, နမၤန္ရ၊ ကျို်အတါမၤစၤလ၊ တလက်ဘူဉ်လက်စ္၊ နီတမံးဘဉ်သုန္၌လီ၊. ကိႏ 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013). ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: ប្រយ័ត្ន៖ បើសិនជាអ្នកនិយាយ ភាសាខ្មែរ, សេវាជំនួយផ្នែកភាសា ដោយមិនគិតឈ្នល គឺអាចមានសំរាប់បំរើអ្នក។ ចូរ ទូរស័ព្ទ 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013).។ ملحوظة: إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم 1.800.940.5049 (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم: 763.847.4013). ATTENTION: Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le 1.800.940.5049 (TTY: 763.847.4013). 주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 1,800,940,5049 (TTY: 763,847,4013), 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

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