

## Medical Policies and Clinical Utilization Management Guidelines update

Published: Jun 1, 2021 - **State & Federal** / Medicare

The *Medical Policies*, *Clinical Utilization Management (UM) Guidelines* and *Third Party Criteria* below were developed and/or revised to support clinical coding edits. Note, several policies and guidelines were revised to provide clarification only and are not included. Existing precertification requirements have not changed. **Please note:** The *Medical Policies* and *Clinical UM Guidelines* below are followed in the absence of Medicare guidance.

Please share this notice with other members of your practice and office staff.

To view a guideline, visit <https://www.anthem.com/provider/policies/clinical-guidelines/search>.

### Notes/updates

Updates marked with an asterisk (\*) notate that the criteria may be perceived as more restrictive.

- **\*CG-LAB-17 - Molecular Gastrointestinal Pathogen Panel (GIPP) Testing for Infectious Diarrhea in the Outpatient Setting**
  - Outlines the medical necessity and not medically necessary criteria for multiplex PCR-based panel testing of gastrointestinal pathogens for infectious diarrhea in the outpatient setting
- **\*ANC.00008 - Cosmetic and Reconstructive Services of the Head and Neck**
  - Added otoplasty using a custom-fabricated device, including but not limited to a custom fabricated alloplastic implant, as cosmetic and not medically necessary

- **\*CG-OR-PR-04 - Cranial Remodeling Bands and Helmets (Cranial Orthotics)**
  - Removed condition requirement from reconstructive criteria and replaced current diagnostic reconstructive criteria with criteria based on one of the following cephalometric measurements: the cephalic index, the cephalic vault asymmetry index, the oblique diameter difference index, or the cranioproportional index of plagiocephelometry
  
- **\*CG-SURG-78 - Locoregional and Surgical Techniques for Treating Primary and Metastatic Liver Malignancies**
  - Added TACE using immunoembolization (for example, using granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor [GM-CSF]) as not medically necessary for all liver-related indications
  
- **\*CG-SURG-82 - Bone-Anchored and Bone Conduction Hearing Aids**
  - Revised audiologic pure tone average bone conduction threshold criteria for unilateral implant for bilateral hearing loss
  - Added not medically necessary statement for when medical necessity criteria have not been met and clarified not medically necessary statement regarding replacement parts or upgrades
  - Added bone conduction hearing aids using an adhesive adapter behind the ear as not medically necessary for all indications
  
- **CG-GENE-22 - Gene Expression Profiling for Managing Breast Cancer Treatment**
  - A ***new Clinical Guideline*** was created from the content contained in GENE.00011. There are no changes to the guideline content and the publish date is April 7, 2021

- **CG-GENE-23 - Genetic Testing for Heritable Cardiac Conditions**

- A new **Clinical Guideline** was created from the content contained in GENE.00007 and GENE.00017. There are no changes to the guideline content and the publish date is April 7, 2021

- **CG-SURG-110 - Lung Volume Reduction Surgery**

- A new **Clinical Guideline** was created from the content contained in SURG.00022. There are no changes to the guideline content and the publish date is June 25, 2021

**AIM Specialty Health®\* Clinical Appropriateness Guideline updates.** To view AIM guidelines, visit the [AIM Specialty Health page](#).

- The Small Joint Surgery Guideline has been revised and became effective on March 14, 2021.

- **The following guidelines have been revised and will be effective on June 4, 2021:**

* Imaging of the Spine
* Imaging of the Extremities
* Vascular Imaging
* Joint Surgery
* Spine Surgery

## Medical Policies

On February 11, 2021, the Medical Policy and Technology Assessment Committee (MPTAC) approved the following *Medical Policies* applicable to Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield (Anthem). These guidelines take effect June 4, 2021.

<b>Publish date</b>	<b>Medical Policy number</b>	<b>Medical Policy title</b>	<b>New or revised</b>
4/7/2021	*ANC.00008	Cosmetic and Reconstructive Services of the Head and Neck	Revised
2/18/2021	SURG.00121	Transcatheter Heart Valve Procedures	Revised
2/18/2021	SURG.00145	Mechanical Circulatory Assist Devices (Ventricular Assist Devices, Percutaneous Ventricular Assist Devices and Artificial Hearts)	Revised

### Clinical UM Guidelines

On February 11, 2021, the MPTAC approved the following *Clinical UM Guidelines* applicable to Anthem. These guidelines were adopted by the medical operations committee for Anthem members on February 25, 2021. **These guidelines take effect June 4, 2021.**

<b>Publish date</b>	<b>Clinical UM Guideline number</b>	<b>Clinical UM Guideline title</b>	<b>New or revised</b>
4/7/2021	<b>*CG-LAB-17</b>	<b>Molecular Gastrointestinal Pathogen Panel (GIPP) Testing for Infectious Diarrhea in the Outpatient Setting</b>	New
2/18/2021	<b>CG-GENE-21</b>	<b>Cell-Free Fetal DNA-Based Prenatal Testing</b>	Revised
4/7/2021	<b>CG-MED-26</b>	<b>Neonatal Levels of Care</b>	Revised
2/18/2021	<b>CG-MED-87</b>	<b>Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography Scans for Noncardiovascular Indications</b>	Revised
4/7/2021	<b>*CG-OR-PR-04</b>	<b>Cranial Remodeling Bands and Helmets (Cranial Orthotics)</b>	Revised
2/18/2021	<b>CG-SURG-55</b>	<b>Intracardiac Electrophysiological Studies (EPS) and Catheter Ablation</b>	Revised
4/7/2021	<b>CG-SURG-71</b>	<b>Reduction Mammoplasty</b>	Revised
4/7/2021	<b>*CG-SURG-78</b>	<b>Locoregional and Surgical Techniques for Treating Primary and Metastatic Liver Malignancies</b>	Revised
4/7/2021	<b>*CG-SURG-82</b>	<b>Bone-Anchored and Bone Conduction Hearing Aids</b>	Revised
4/7/2021	<b>CG-SURG-97</b>	<b>Cardioverter Defibrillators</b>	Revised

\* AIM Specialty Health is an independent company providing some utilization review services on behalf of Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

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**URL:** <https://providernews.anthem.com/virginia/article/medical-policies-and-clinical-utilization-management-guidelines-update-50>

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