

Policy Name:	Noncontact Normothermic Wound Therapy
Effective Date:	10/15/2018

Important Information – Please Read Before Using This Policy

These services may or may not be covered by all Medica plans. Please refer to the member's plan document for specific coverage information. If there is a difference between this general information and the member's plan document, the member's plan document will be used to determine coverage. With respect to Medicare and Minnesota Health Care Programs, this policy will apply unless those programs require different coverage. Members may contact Medica Customer Service at the phone number listed on their member identification card to discuss their benefits more specifically. Providers with questions about this Medica coverage policy may call the Medica Provider Service Center toll-free at 1-800-458-5512.

Medica coverage policies are not medical advice. Members should consult with appropriate health care providers to obtain needed medical advice, care and treatment.

Coverage Policy

Noncontact normothermic wound therapy is investigative and therefore **NOT COVERED**.

Note: This policy is no longer scheduled for routine review of the scientific literature.

Description

Noncontact normothermic wound therapy (NNWT) is a semi occlusive, moisture-retaining wound cover mechanism that delivers radiant heat to the site of a wound. The system uses a heat generator and dressings designed to retain moisture around wound tissue. The intent is to maintain wound temperature at or slightly above normal body temperature (38 degrees Celsius). Increasing the temperature of wound tissues is purported to increase oxygen tension, thereby improving oxygen delivery throughout the wound. These conditions are thought to accelerate and improve the degree of wound healing and collagen formation, while maintaining resistance to infection. NNWT is also theorized to reduce the inhibitory healing effects of chronic wound fluids and to stimulate the body's natural cell proliferation. This technology can be used in both the inpatient and outpatient settings.

FDA Approval

The FDA does not approve therapies. One system specifically designed for normothermic wound therapy is Warm-Up Active Wound Therapy (Augustine Medical, Eden Prairie MN). This system received 510(k) approval from the FDA on March 28, 1997 as a wound and burn occlusive heated dressing. The wound care system is intended to be used for local management of wounds by maintaining moisture and body

Prior Authorization

Prior authorization is not applicable. Claims for this service are subject to retrospective review and denial of coverage, as investigative services are not eligible for reimbursement.

Medica Coverage Policy



Coding Considerations

Use the current applicable CPT/HCPCS code(s). The following codes are included below for informational purposes only, and are subject to change without notice. Inclusion or exclusion of a code does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement.

HCPCS Codes:

- A6000 - Noncontact wound-warming wound cover for use with the noncontact wound-warming device and warming card.
- E0231 - Noncontact wound-warming device (temperature control unit, AC adapter and power cord) for use with warming card and wound cover
- E0232 - Warming card for use with the noncontact wound-warming card and wound cover

Original Effective Date: 1/1/2006

Re-Review Date(s): 10/28/2008
7/18/2012
7/15/2015
7/18/2018

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