MEDICARE COVERAGE SUMMARY: HEMODIALYSIS FOR THE TREATMENT OF SCHIZOPHRENIA

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

This guideline is used to make coverage determinations as well as to inform discussions about evidence-based practices and discharge planning for behavioral health benefit plans managed by Optum®. When deciding coverage, the member’s specific benefits must be referenced.

All reviewers must first identify member eligibility, the member-specific benefit plan coverage, and any federal or state regulatory requirements that supersede the member’s benefits prior to using this guideline. Other clinical criteria may apply. Optum reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to modify its clinical criteria as necessary using the process described in Clinical Criteria.

This guideline is provided for informational purposes. It does not constitute medical advice. Optum may also use tools developed by third parties that are intended to be used in connection with the independent professional medical judgment of a qualified health care provider and do not constitute the practice of medicine or medical advice.

Optum may develop clinical criteria or adopt externally-developed clinical criteria that supersede this guideline when required to do so by contract or regulation.

HEMODIALYSIS FOR THE TREATMENT OF SCHIZOPHRENIA

Hemodialysis is a method for removing waste products from the body. In Hemodialysis, blood passes through an artificial kidney machine and the waste products diffuse across a manmade membrane into a bath solution known as dialysate after which the cleansed blood is returned to the patient’s body (CMS Benefit Policy Manual).

1 Optum is a brand used by United Behavioral Health and its affiliates.
APPLICABLE STATES
This Medicare Coverage Summary is based on the following CMS National Coverage Determinations (NCDs), and is applicable to all states.

- (CMS 130.8) Hemodialysis for the Treatment of Schizophrenia

COVERAGE INDICATIONS, LIMITATIONS, AND/OR MEDICAL NECESSITY

Limitations and Exclusions
Scientific evidence supporting the use of Hemodialysis as a safe and effective means of treatment for Schizophrenia is inconclusive at this time. Accordingly, Medicare does not cover Hemodialysis for the treatment of Schizophrenia.

CLINICAL BEST PRACTICES
N/A

REFERENCES


HISTORY/REVISION INFORMATION

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