

ABORTIONS

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I. CPT¹ PROCEDURE CODE RANGE

59812 - 59857

II. DESCRIPTION

Abortion means the intentional termination of a pregnancy by artificial means done for a purpose other than that of producing a live birth. An elective abortion means the intentional termination of pregnancy by artificial means done for a purpose other than that of producing a live birth.

III. POLICY

A. By law, elective abortions may not be cost-shared. Abortions may be cost-shared only when the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term. Covered abortion services are limited to medical services and supplies. Physician certification attesting that the abortion was performed because the mother's life would have been endangered if the fetus were carried to term is required.

B. Services and supplies related to spontaneous, missed or threatened abortions and abortions related to ectopic pregnancies may be cost-shared.

IV. EXCLUSIONS

A. Services and supplies related to a noncovered abortion.

B. Abortion counseling, referral, preparation and follow-up for a non-covered abortion.

C. Abortions for fetal abnormality (e.g., anencephalic) or for psychological reasons (i.e., threatened suicide).

D. Selective reduction of multi-fetal gestations, except when the life of the mother would be endangered if the multi-fetal gestation was carried to term.

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TRICARE POLICY MANUAL 6010.54-M, AUGUST 1, 2002

CHAPTER 4, SECTION 18.3

ABORTIONS

V. EFFECTIVE DATES

A. June 5, 1981, for beneficiaries of the Department of Health and Human Services (includes the Coast Guard, Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration).

B. December 29, 1981, for beneficiaries of the Department of Defense (includes Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps).

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