

Chapter 4

Section 3.1

Laser Surgery

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1.0 DESCRIPTION

Surgery using a laser (Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation) device instead of conventional surgical tools, such as scalpels.

2.0 POLICY

Laser surgery may be cost-shared to the same extent as conventional surgery when the device being used has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

3.0 EXCLUSIONS

Laser surgery may not be cost-shared for surgical procedures otherwise excluded under TRICARE, including:

- Pain relief, biostimulation;
- Noncovered surgical services, such as removal of tattoos;
- Arthritis or low back pain;
- Corneal sculpting;
- Body sculpting;
- Noncovered surgical services, such as removal of tattoos, hair removal;
- Noncovered cosmetic dermatology, such as removal or telangiectasias, spider angiomas;
- Facial rejuvenation.

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