

Respiratory System

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1.0 CPT¹ PROCEDURE CODES

30000 - 32488, 32491, 32500 - 32999, 96570, 96571

2.0 DESCRIPTION

The respiratory system is comprised of the tubular and cavernous organs and structures by means of which pulmonary ventilation and gas exchange between ambient air and the blood are brought about.

3.0 POLICY

3.1 Services and supplies required in the diagnosis and treatment of illness or injury involving the respiratory system are covered.

3.2 Resection of pneumatoceles is a covered procedure.

3.3 Lung Volume Reduction Surgery (LVRS) is a covered procedure, see [Section 8.2](#).

3.4 Endoscopic thoracic sympathectomy (CPT¹ procedure code 32664) is covered for treatment of severe primary hyperhidrosis when appropriate nonsurgical therapies have failed and the hyperhidrosis results in significant functional impairment.

4.0 EXCLUSIONS

4.1 Pillar palatal implant system for the treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) is unproven.

4.2 Uvulopalatopharyngoplasty (UPPP) (CPT¹ procedure code 42145) for the treatment of Upper Airway Resistance Syndrome (UARS) is unproven).

4.3 Nitric oxide expired gas determination (CPT¹ procedure code 95012) for asthma is unproven.

4.4 Bronchial Thermoplasty (BT) (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes 0276T and 0277T) for the treatment of asthma is unproven.

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4.5 Radiofrequency Ablation (RFA) of the tongue base to treat Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) is unproven.

5.0 EFFECTIVE DATE

December 1, 2006, for endoscopic thoracic sympathectomy for severe primary hyperhidrosis.

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