

## Chapter 4

## Section 8.1

# Respiratory System

Issue Date: August 26, 1985  
Authority: [32 CFR 199.4\(c\)\(2\)](#)

---

### 1.0 CPT<sup>1</sup> 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 (CPT<sup>1</sup> 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) (CPT<sup>1</sup> procedure code 42145) for the treatment of Upper Airway Resistance Syndrome (UARS) is unproven).

**4.3** Nitric oxide expired gas determination (CPT<sup>1</sup> procedure code 95012) for asthma is unproven.

**4.4** Bronchial Thermoplasty (BT) (CPT<sup>1</sup> procedure codes 31660 and 31661) for the treatment of asthma is unproven.

---

<sup>1</sup> CPT only © 2006 American Medical Association (or such other date of publication of CPT). All Rights Reserved.

**TRICARE Policy Manual 6010.57-M, February 1, 2008**

Chapter 4, Section 8.1

Respiratory System

---

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

**4.6** Hypoglossal Nerve Stimulation (HGNS) for the treatment of OSA is unproven.

**5.0 EFFECTIVE DATE**

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

- END -