

Medical Policy:

Cosmetic and Reconstructive Surgery Procedures

| POLICY NUMBER | LAST REVIEW | APPROVED BY |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| EH.CCI.AD.01a | August 12, 2022 | Medical Policy Committee (MPC) |

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The treating physician or primary care provider must submit to EmblemHealth, or ConnectiCare, as applicable (hereinafter jointly referred to as “EmblemHealth”), the clinical evidence that the member meets the criteria for the treatment or surgical procedure. Without this documentation and information, EmblemHealth will not be able to properly review the request preauthorization or post-payment review. The clinical review criteria expressed below reflects how EmblemHealth determines whether certain services or supplies are medically necessary. This clinical policy is not intended to pre-empt the judgment of the reviewing medical director or dictate to health care providers how to practice medicine. Health care providers are expected to exercise their medical judgment in rendering appropriate care. Health care providers are expected to exercise their medical judgment in rendering appropriate care.

EmblemHealth established the clinical review criteria based upon a review of currently available clinical information (including clinical outcome studies in the peer reviewed published medical literature, regulatory status of the technology, evidence-based guidelines of public health and health research agencies, evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations, views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas, and other relevant factors). EmblemHealth expressly reserves the right to revise these conclusions as clinical information changes and welcomes further relevant information. Each benefit program defines which services are covered. The conclusion that a particular service or supply is medically necessary does not constitute a representation or warranty that this service or supply is covered and/or paid for by EmblemHealth, as some programs exclude coverage for services or supplies that EmblemHealth considers medically necessary.

If there is a discrepancy between this guideline and a member's benefits program, the benefits program will govern. Identification of selected brand names of devices, tests and procedures in a medical coverage policy is for reference only and is not an endorsement of any one device, test or procedure over another. In addition, coverage may be mandated by applicable legal requirements of a state, the Federal Government or the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for Medicare and Medicaid members. All coding and web site links are accurate at time of publication.

EmblemHealth may also use tools developed by third parties, such as the MCG™ Care Guidelines, to assist us in administering health benefits. The MCG™ Care Guidelines 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. EmblemHealth Services Company, LLC, has adopted this policy in providing management, administrative and other services to EmblemHealth Plan, Inc., EmblemHealth Insurance Company, EmblemHealth Services Company, LLC, and Health Insurance Plan of Greater New York (HIP) related to health benefit plans offered by these entities. ConnectiCare, an EmblemHealth company, has also adopted this policy. All of the aforementioned entities are affiliated companies under common control of EmblemHealth Inc.

Applicable to: EmblemHealth/ConnectiCare Commercial and EmblemHealth Medicaid Plans

Overview

EmblemHealth/ConnectiCare regard the surgical procedures listed in [Applicable Coding Table\(s\)](#) as cosmetic (unless substantiating documentation is received that would otherwise indicate that the purpose of the procedure is to restore or improve bodily function or is otherwise medically necessary).

The plan reserves the right to deny coverage for other procedures that are cosmetic and not medically necessary. Benefit coverage for health services is determined by the member-specific benefit plan document and applicable laws that may require coverage for a specific service. Please check benefit plan descriptions for details. If there is a discrepancy between this policy and a member's plan of benefits, then the provision of the benefits will prevail.

Indications for Coverage

For plans that include benefits for the procedures listed below, the following are eligible for coverage as reconstructive and medically necessary when **all of** the following criteria are met:

- There is documentation that the physical abnormality and/or physiological abnormality is causing a functional impairment that requires correction; and
- The proposed treatment is of proven efficacy and is deemed likely to significantly improve or restore the patient’s physiological function.

Limitations and Exclusions

The Plan does not cover cosmetic procedures under the following circumstances, *including but not limited to*:

- Procedures that correct an anatomical Congenital Anomaly without improving or restoring physiologic function (i.e, procedures that do not meet the reconstructive criteria in the [Indications for Coverage](#) section).
- Pharmacological regimens, nutritional procedures, or treatments.
- Scar or tattoo removal or revision procedures (such as salabrasion, chemosurgery and other such skin abrasion procedures).
- Skin abrasion procedures performed as a treatment for acne.
- Treatment for skin wrinkles or any treatment to improve the appearance of the skin.
- Treatment for spider or varicose veins outside of varicose vein medical policy.
- Ancillary services related to cosmetic procedures that are not considered medically necessary.
- Hair removal or replacement by any means (except when performed in conjunction with approved services pertaining to gender dysphoria).

Applicable Coding Table(s)

- Table 1: Medical procedures deemed always cosmetic
- [Table 2](#): Medical procedures that may be cosmetic (review may be required to determine if the service is cosmetic or reconstructive)

Table 1: Procedure codes deemed always cosmetic

| Code | Description |
|-------|---|
| 11200 | Removal of skin tags, multiple fibrocutaneous tags, any area; up to and including 15 lesions |
| 11201 | Removal of skin tags, multiple fibrocutaneous tags, any area; each additional 10 lesions, or part thereof (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure) |
| 11950 | Subcutaneous injection of filling material (eg, collagen) <i>Exception: NY and Mass HIV-related lipodystrophy mandate</i> |
| 11951 | Subcutaneous injection of filling material (eg, collagen) <i>Exception: NY and Mass HIV-related lipodystrophy mandate</i> |
| 11952 | Subcutaneous injection of filling material (eg, collagen) <i>Exception: NY and Mass HIV-related lipodystrophy mandate</i> |
| 11954 | Subcutaneous injection of filling material (eg, collagen) <i>Exception: NY and Mass HIV-related lipodystrophy mandate</i> |

| Code | Description |
|-------|--|
| 15775 | Punch graft for hair transplant |
| 15776 | Punch graft for hair transplant: more than 15 punch grafts |
| 15786 | Abrasion; single lesion (eg, keratosis, scar) |
| 15787 | Abrasion; each additional 4 lesions or less (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure) |
| 15819 | Cervicoplasty |
| 15824 | Rhytidectomy; forehead |
| 15825 | Rhytidectomy; neck with platysmal tightening (platysmal flap, P-flap) |
| 15826 | Rhytidectomy; glabellar frown lines |
| 15828 | Rhytidectomy; cheek, chin, and neck |
| 15829 | Rhytidectomy; superficial musculoaponeurotic system (SMAS) flap |
| 15832 | Excision, excessive skin and subcutaneous tissue (includes lipectomy); thigh |
| 15833 | Excision, excessive skin and subcutaneous tissue (includes lipectomy); leg |
| 15834 | Excision, excessive skin and subcutaneous tissue (includes lipectomy); hip |
| 15835 | Excision, excessive skin and subcutaneous tissue (includes lipectomy); buttock |
| 15836 | Excision, excessive skin and subcutaneous tissue (includes lipectomy); arm |
| 15837 | Excision, excessive skin and subcutaneous tissue (includes lipectomy); forearm or hand |
| 15838 | Excision, excessive skin and subcutaneous tissue (includes lipectomy); submental fat pad |
| 15839 | Excision, excessive skin and subcutaneous tissue (includes lipectomy); other area |
| 15876 | Suction assisted lipectomy; head and neck |
| 15877 | Suction assisted lipectomy; trunk |
| 15878 | Suction assisted lipectomy; upper extremity |
| 15879 | Suction assisted lipectomy; lower extremity |
| 17340 | Cryotherapy (CO2 slush, liquid N2) for acne |
| 17360 | Chemical exfoliation for acne (eg, acne paste, acid) |
| 17380 | Electrolysis epilation, each 30 minutes <i>Exception, see Gender Affirming/Reassignment medical policies (ConnectiCare, EmblemHealth)</i> |
| 21120 | Genioplasty; augmentation (autograft, allograft, prosthetic material) |
| 19355 | Correction of inverted nipples |
| 21121 | Genioplasty; sliding osteotomy, single piece |
| 21122 | Genioplasty; sliding osteotomies, 2 or more osteotomies (eg, wedge excision or bone wedge reversal for asymmetrical chin) |
| 21123 | Genioplasty; sliding, augmentation with interpositional bone grafts (includes obtaining autografts) |

| Code | Description |
|-------|--|
| 65760 | Keratomileusis |
| 65765 | Keratophakia |
| 65767 | Epikeratoplasty |
| 65771 | Radial keratotomy |
| 69090 | Ear piercing |
| 69300 | Otoplasty, protruding ear, with or without size reduction |
| 96902 | Microscopic examination of hairs plucked or clipped by the examiner (excluding hair collected by the patient) to determine telogen and anagen counts, or structural hair shaft abnormality |
| S0800 | Laser in situ keratomileusis (LASIK) |
| S0810 | Photorefractive keratectomy (PRK) |
| S0812 | Phototherapeutic keratectomy (PTK) |
| S0596 | Phakic intraocular lens for correction of refractive error |

Table 2: Procedure codes generally deemed cosmetic (review may be required to determine if the service is cosmetic or reconstructive)

| Code | Description | Comments/Related Policy Links |
|-------|--|--|
| 10040 | Acne surgery (eg, marsupialization, opening or removal of multiple milia, comedones, cysts, pustules) | May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 11920 | Tattooing, intradermal introduction of insoluble opaque pigments to correct color defects of skin, including micropigmentation | Breast Implants and Reconstruction (ConnectiCare) Breast Implants and Reconstruction (EmblemHealth) Gender Affirming/Reassignment Surgery (ConnectiCare) Gender Affirming/Reassignment Surgery (EmblemHealth) |
| 11921 | Tattooing, intradermal introduction | Breast Implants and Reconstruction (ConnectiCare) Breast Implants and Reconstruction (EmblemHealth) Gender Affirming/Reassignment Surgery (ConnectiCare) Gender Affirming/Reassignment Surgery (EmblemHealth) |

| Code | Description | Comments/Related Policy Links |
|-------|---|---|
| 11922 | Tattooing, intradermal introduction | Breast Implants and Reconstruction (ConnectiCare) Breast Implants and Reconstruction (EmblemHealth) Gender Affirming/Reassignment Surgery (ConnectiCare) Gender Affirming/Reassignment Surgery (EmblemHealth) |
| 11960 | Insertion of tissue expander(s) for other than breast , including subsequent expansion | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 11971 | Removal of tissue expander(s) without insertion of prosthesis | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage Also applicable — MCG General Surgery or Procedure GRG (SG-GS) |
| 15730 | Midface flap (ie, zygomaticofacial flap) with preservation of vascular pedicle(s) | May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage Also applicable — MCG Wound and Skin Management GRG (PG-WS) |
| 15733 | Muscle, myocutaneous, or fasciocutaneous flap; head and neck with named vascular pedicle (ie, buccinators, genioglossus, temporalis, masseter, sternocleidomastoid, levator scapulae) | May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage Also applicable — MCG Wound and Skin Management GRG (PG-WS) |
| 15769 | Grafting of autologous soft tissue, other, harvested by direct excision (eg, fat, dermis, fascia) | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage Breast Implants and Reconstruction (ConnectiCare) Breast Implants and Reconstruction (EmblemHealth) |
| 15771 | Grafting of autologous fat harvested by liposuction technique to trunk, breasts, scalp, arms, and/or legs; 50 cc or less injectate | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage Breast Implants and Reconstruction (ConnectiCare) Breast Implants and Reconstruction (EmblemHealth) |

| Code | Description | Comments/Related Policy Links |
|-------|--|---|
| 15772 | Grafting of autologous fat harvested by liposuction technique to trunk, breasts, scalp, arms, and/or legs; each additional 50 cc injectate, or part thereof (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure) | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage Breast Implants and Reconstruction (ConnectiCare) Breast Implants and Reconstruction (EmblemHealth) |
| 15773 | Grafting of autologous fat harvested by liposuction technique to face, eyelids, mouth, neck, ears, orbits, genitalia, hands, and/or feet; 25 cc or less injectate | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 15774 | Grafting of autologous fat harvested by liposuction technique to face, eyelids, mouth, neck, ears, orbits, genitalia, hands, and/or feet; each additional 25 cc injectate, or part thereof (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure) | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 15780 | Dermabrasion; total face (eg, for acne scarring, fine wrinkling, rhytids, general keratosis) | Dermabrasion (ConnectiCare) Dermabrasion (EmblemHealth) |
| 15781 | Dermabrasion; segmental, face | Dermabrasion (ConnectiCare) Dermabrasion (EmblemHealth) |
| 15782 | Dermabrasion; regional, other than face | Dermabrasion (ConnectiCare) Dermabrasion (EmblemHealth) |
| 15783 | Dermabrasion; superficial, any site (eg, tattoo removal) | Dermabrasion (ConnectiCare) Dermabrasion (EmblemHealth) |
| 15788 | Chemical peel, facial; epidermal | Chemical Peels (ConnectiCare) Chemical Peels (EmblemHealth) |
| 15789 | Chemical peel, facial; dermal | Chemical Peels (ConnectiCare) Chemical Peels (EmblemHealth) |
| 15792 | Chemical peel, nonfacial; epidermal | Chemical Peels (ConnectiCare) Chemical Peels (EmblemHealth) |
| 15793 | Chemical peel, nonfacial; dermal | Chemical Peels (ConnectiCare) Chemical Peels (EmblemHealth) |
| 15820 | Blepharoplasty, lower eyelid; | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 15821 | Blepharoplasty, lower eyelid; with extensive herniated fat pad | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 15822 | Blepharoplasty, upper eyelid; | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |

| Code | Description | Comments/Related Policy Links |
|-------|--|---|
| 15823 | Blepharoplasty, upper eyelid; with excessive skin weighting down lid | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 15830 | Excision, excessive skin and subcutaneous tissue (includes lipectomy); abdomen, infraumbilical panniculectomy | Abdominoplasty/Panniculectomy (ConnectiCare) Abdominoplasty/Panniculectomy (EmblemHealth) |
| 15847 | Excision, excessive skin and subcutaneous tissue (includes lipectomy), abdomen (eg, abdominoplasty) (includes umbilical transposition and fascial plication) (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure) | Abdominoplasty/Panniculectomy (ConnectiCare) Abdominoplasty/Panniculectomy (EmblemHealth) |
| 17106 | Destruction of cutaneous vascular proliferative lesions (eg, laser technique); less than 10 sq cm | Pulse Dye Laser Therapy for Cutaneous Vascular Lesions (ConnectiCare) Pulse Dye Laser Therapy for Cutaneous Vascular Lesions (EmblemHealth) |
| 17107 | Destruction of cutaneous vascular proliferative lesions (eg, laser technique); 10.0 to 50.0 sq cm | Pulse Dye Laser Therapy for Cutaneous Vascular Lesions (ConnectiCare) Pulse Dye Laser Therapy for Cutaneous Vascular Lesions (EmblemHealth) |
| 17108 | Destruction of cutaneous vascular proliferative lesions (eg, laser technique); over 50.0 sq cm | Pulse Dye Laser Therapy for Cutaneous Vascular Lesions (ConnectiCare) Pulse Dye Laser Therapy for Cutaneous Vascular Lesions (EmblemHealth) |
| 17380 | Electrolysis epilation, each 30 minutes | Considered always cosmetic <i>except in conjunction with gender affirming/reassignment</i> . Gender Affirming/Reassignment Surgery (ConnectiCare) Gender Affirming/Reassignment Surgery (EmblemHealth) |
| 17999 | Unlisted procedure, skin, mucous membrane and subcutaneous tissue | Medical records required for review of unlisted codes |
| 19300 | Mastectomy for gynecomastia | MCG #A-0273 Mastectomy for Gynecomastia |
| 19316 | Mastopexy | Breast Implants and Reconstruction (ConnectiCare) Breast Implants and Reconstruction (EmblemHealth) MCG #A-0274 Reduction Mammoplasty (Mammoplasty) (ConnectiCare) Breast Reduction Mammoplasty (EmblemHealth) |

| Code | Description | Comments/Related Policy Links |
|-------|---|---|
| 19318 | Reduction mammoplasty | MCG #A-0274 Reduction Mammoplasty (Mammoplasty) (ConnectiCare) Breast Reduction Mammoplasty (EmblemHealth) Gender Affirming/Reassignment Surgery (ConnectiCare) Gender Affirming/Reassignment Surgery (EmblemHealth) |
| 19325 | Mammoplasty, augmentation; with prosthetic implant | Breast Implants and Reconstruction (ConnectiCare) Breast Implants and Reconstruction (EmblemHealth) |
| 19340 | Immediate insertion of breast prosthesis following mastopexy, mastectomy or in reconstruction (unless diagnosis of breast cancer is reported) | Breast Implants and Reconstruction (ConnectiCare) Breast Implants and Reconstruction (EmblemHealth) |
| 19342 | Delayed insertion of breast prosthesis following mastopexy, mastectomy or in reconstruction (unless diagnosis of breast cancer is reported) | Breast Implants and Reconstruction (ConnectiCare) Breast Implants and Reconstruction (EmblemHealth) |
| 21086 | Impression and custom preparation; auricular prosthesis | May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21087 | Impression and custom preparation; nasal prosthesis | May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21137 | Reduction forehead; contouring only | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21138 | Reduction forehead; contouring and application of prosthetic material or bone graft (includes obtaining autograft) | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21139 | Reduction forehead; contouring and setback of anterior frontal sinus wall | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21172 | Reconstruction superior-lateral orbital rim and lower forehead, advancement or alteration, with or without grafts (includes obtaining autografts) | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |

| Code | Description | Comments/Related Policy Links |
|-------|---|---|
| 21175 | Reconstruction, bifrontal, superior-lateral orbital rims and lower forehead, advancement or alteration (eg, plagiocephaly, trigonocephaly, brachycephaly), with or without grafts (includes obtaining autografts) | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21179 | Reconstruction, entire or majority of forehead and/or supraorbital rims; with grafts (allograft or prosthetic material) | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21180 | Reconstruction, entire or majority of forehead and/or supraorbital rims; with autograft (includes obtaining grafts) | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21181 | Reconstruction by contouring of benign tumor of cranial bones (eg, fibrous dysplasia), extracranial | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21182 | Reconstruction of orbital walls, rims, forehead, nasoethmoid complex following intra- and extracranial excision of benign tumor of cranial bone (eg, fibrous dysplasia), with multiple autografts (includes obtaining grafts); total area of bone grafting less than 40 sq cm | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21183 | Reconstruction of orbital walls, rims, forehead, nasoethmoid complex following intra- and extracranial excision of benign tumor of cranial bone (eg, fibrous dysplasia), with multiple autografts (includes obtaining grafts); total area of bone grafting greater than 40 sq cm but less than 80 sq cm | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21184 | Reconstruction of orbital walls, rims, forehead, nasoethmoid complex following intra- and extracranial excision of benign tumor of cranial bone (eg, fibrous dysplasia), with multiple autografts (includes obtaining grafts); total area of bone grafting greater than 80 sq cm | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21230 | Graft; rib cartilage, autogenous, to face, chin, nose or ear (includes obtaining graft) | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21235 | Graft; ear cartilage, autogenous, to nose or ear (includes obtaining graft) | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |

| Code | Description | Comments/Related Policy Links |
|-------|---|---|
| 21242 | Arthroplasty, temporomandibular joint, with allograft | Orthognathic Surgery (ConnectiCare) Orthognathic Surgery (EmblemHealth) |
| 21243 | Arthroplasty, temporomandibular joint, with prosthetic joint replacement | Oral Surgery (ConnectiCare) MCG #A-0523 Temporomandibular Joint Arthroplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 21256 | Reconstruction of orbit with osteotomies (extracranial) and with bone grafts (includes obtaining autografts) (eg, micro-ophthalmia) | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21260 | Periorbital osteotomies for orbital hypertelorism, with bone grafts; extracranial approach | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21261 | Periorbital osteotomies for orbital hypertelorism, with bone grafts; combined intra- and extracranial approach | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21263 | Periorbital osteotomies for orbital hypertelorism, with bone grafts; with forehead advancement | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21267 | Orbital repositioning, periorbital osteotomies, unilateral, with bone grafts; extracranial approach | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21268 | Orbital repositioning, periorbital osteotomies, unilateral, with bone grafts; combined intra- and extracranial approach | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21275 | Secondary revision of orbitocraniofacial reconstruction | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21280 | Medial canthopexy (separate procedure) | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 21282 | Lateral canthopexy | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |

| Code | Description | Comments/Related Policy Links |
|-------|---|---|
| 21740 | Reconstructive repair of pectus excavatum or carinatum; open | Surgical Correction of Chest Wall Deformities (ConnectiCare) Surgical Correction of Chest Wall Deformities (EmblemHealth) |
| 21742 | Reconstructive repair of pectus excavatum or carinatum; minimally invasive approach (Nuss procedure), without thoracoscopy | Surgical Correction of Chest Wall Deformities (ConnectiCare) Surgical Correction of Chest Wall Deformities (EmblemHealth) |
| 21743 | Reconstructive repair of pectus excavatum or carinatum; minimally invasive approach (Nuss procedure), with thoracoscopy | Surgical Correction of Chest Wall Deformities (ConnectiCare) Surgical Correction of Chest Wall Deformities (EmblemHealth) |
| 28344 | Reconstruction, toe(s); polydactyly | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 30400 | Rhinoplasty, primary; lateral and alar cartilages and/or elevation of nasal tip | Rhinoplasty (ConnectiCare) Rhinoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 30410 | Rhinoplasty, primary; complete, external parts including bony pyramid, lateral and alar cartilages, and/or elevation of nasal tip | Rhinoplasty (ConnectiCare) Rhinoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 30420 | Rhinoplasty, primary; including major septal repair | Rhinoplasty (ConnectiCare) Rhinoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 30430 | Rhinoplasty, secondary; minor revision (small amount of nasal tip work) | Rhinoplasty (ConnectiCare) Rhinoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 30435 | Rhinoplasty, secondary; intermediate revision (bony work with osteotomies) | Rhinoplasty (ConnectiCare) Rhinoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 30450 | Rhinoplasty, secondary; major revision (nasal tip work and osteotomies) | Rhinoplasty (ConnectiCare) Rhinoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 30460 | Rhinoplasty for nasal deformity secondary to congenital cleft lip and/or palate, including columellar lengthening; tip only | Rhinoplasty (ConnectiCare) Rhinoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 30462 | Rhinoplasty for nasal deformity secondary to congenital cleft lip and/or palate, including columellar lengthening; tip, septum, osteotomies | Rhinoplasty (ConnectiCare) Rhinoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 30540 | Repair choanal atresia; intranasal | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |

| Code | Description | Comments/Related Policy Links |
|-------|--|---|
| 30545 | Repair choanal atresia; transpalatine | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 30560 | Lysis intranasal synechia | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 30620 | Septal or other intranasal dermatoplasty (does not include obtaining graft) | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 36468 | Injection of sclerosant for spider veins (telangiectasia), limb or trunk | See Varicose Vein Treatment Limitations and Exclusions Varicose Vein Treatment (ConnectiCare) Varicose Vein Treatment (EmblemHealth) |
| 36469 | Single or multiple injections of sclerosing solutions, spider veins (telangiectasia); face | See Varicose Vein Treatment Limitations and Exclusions Varicose Vein Treatment (ConnectiCare) Varicose Vein Treatment (EmblemHealth) |
| 36470 | Injection of sclerosant; single incompetent vein (other than telangiectasia) | See Varicose Vein Treatment Limitations and Exclusions Varicose Vein Treatment (ConnectiCare) Varicose Vein Treatment (EmblemHealth) |
| 36471 | Injection of sclerosing solution sclerosant; multiple incompetent veins, (other than telangiectasia), same leg | See Varicose Vein Treatment Limitations and Exclusions Varicose Vein Treatment (ConnectiCare) Varicose Vein Treatment (EmblemHealth) |
| 40500 | Vermilionectomy (lip shave), with mucosal advancement | May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 55970 | Intersex surgery; male to female | Gender Affirming/Reassignment Surgery (ConnectiCare) Gender Affirming/Reassignment Surgery (EmblemHealth) |
| 55980 | Intersex surgery; female to male | Gender Affirming/Reassignment Surgery (ConnectiCare) Gender Affirming/Reassignment Surgery (EmblemHealth) |

| Code | Description | Comments/Related Policy Links |
|-------|--|--|
| 67900 | Repair of brow ptosis (supraciliary, mid-forehead or coronal approach) | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67901 | Repair of blepharoptosis; frontalis muscle technique with suture or other material (eg, banked fascia) | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67902 | Repair of blepharoptosis; frontalis muscle technique with autologous fascial sling (includes obtaining fascia) | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67903 | Repair of blepharoptosis; (tarso) levator resection or advancement, internal approach | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67904 | Repair of blepharoptosis; (tarso) levator resection or advancement, external approach | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67906 | Repair of blepharoptosis; superior rectus technique with fascial sling (includes obtaining fascia) | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67908 | Repair of blepharoptosis; conjunctivo-tarso-Muller's muscle-levator resection (eg, Fasanella-Servat type) | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67909 | Reduction of overcorrection of ptosis | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67911 | Correction of lid retraction | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67912 | Correction of lagophthalmos, with implantation of upper eyelid lid load (eg, gold weight) | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67914 | Repair of ectropion; suture | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67915 | Repair of ectropion; thermocauterization | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67916 | Repair of ectropion; excision tarsal wedge | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67917 | Repair of ectropion; extensive (eg, tarsal strip operations) | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67921 | Repair of entropion; suture | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67922 | Repair of entropion; thermocauterization | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67923 | Repair of entropion; excision tarsal wedge | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |

| Code | Description | Comments/Related Policy Links |
|-------|---|--|
| 67924 | Repair of entropion; extensive (eg, tarsal strip or capsulopalpebral fascia repairs operation) | Blepharoplasty (ConnectiCare) Blepharoplasty (EmblemHealth) |
| 67950 | Canthoplasty (reconstruction of canthus) | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 67961 | Excision and repair of eyelid, involving lid margin, tarsus, conjunctiva, canthus, or full thickness, may include preparation for skin graft or pedicle flap with adjacent tissue transfer or rearrangement; up to one-fourth of lid margin | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 67966 | Excision and repair of eyelid, involving lid margin, tarsus, conjunctiva, canthus, or full thickness, may include preparation for skin graft or pedicle flap with adjacent tissue transfer or rearrangement; over one-fourth of lid margin | Medical record review required. May be considered medically necessary when causing significant impairment of physical or mechanical function. See Indications for Coverage |
| 96912 | Photochemotherapy; psoralens and ultraviolet A (PUVA) | Phototherapy, Photochemotherapy and Photodynamic Therapy for Dermatologic Conditions (ConnectiCare) Phototherapy, Photochemotherapy and Photodynamic Therapy for Dermatologic Conditions (EmblemHealth) |
| 96913 | Photochemotherapy (Goeckerman and/or PUVA) for severe photoresponsive dermatoses requiring at least four to eight hours of care under direct supervision of the physician (includes application of medication and dressings) | Phototherapy, Photochemotherapy and Photodynamic Therapy for Dermatologic Conditions (ConnectiCare) Phototherapy, Photochemotherapy and Photodynamic Therapy for Dermatologic Conditions (EmblemHealth) |

Definitions

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| Cosmetic surgery | <p>Cosmetic surgery procedures are those intended solely to refine or reshape structures or surfaces that are not functionally impaired. They are performed to improve appearance or self-esteem, or for other psychological, psychiatric, or emotional reasons.</p> <p>Cosmetic surgery is differentiated from reconstructive surgery, which is generally designed to improve function, but will usually include an improvement in appearance of the body area involved.</p> <p>Cosmetic surgery procedures are usually not considered eligible for coverage. This includes, but is not limited to, treatments, drugs, products, hospital/facility charges, anesthesia, pathology/lab fees, radiology fees and professional fees by the surgeon, assistant surgeon, consultants and attending physicians.</p> |
| Congenital Anomaly | A physical developmental defect that is present at the time of birth, and that is identified within the first twelve months of birth |

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| Functional or Physical Impairment | A functional or physical or physiological impairment causes deviation from the normal function of a tissue or organ. This results in a significantly limited, impaired, or delayed capacity to move, coordinate actions, or perform physical activities and is exhibited by difficulties in one or more of the following areas: physical and motor tasks; independent movement; performing basic life functions. |
| Reconstructive Procedures | <p>Reconstructive Procedures when the primary purpose of the procedure is either of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Treatment of a medical condition ▪ Improvement or restoration of physiologic function <p>Reconstructive Procedures include surgery or other procedures which are related to an Injury, Sickness or Congenital Anomaly. The primary result of the procedure is not a changed or improved physical appearance. Procedures that correct an anatomical Congenital Anomaly without improving or restoring physiologic function are considered Cosmetic Procedures.</p> <p>The fact that you may suffer psychological consequences or socially avoidant behavior because of an Injury, Sickness or Congenital Anomaly does not classify surgery (or other procedures done to relieve such consequences or behavior) as a Reconstructive Procedure.</p> |

References

American Medical Association (AMA). CPT® Assistant Online. <https://www.ama-assn.org/practicemanagement/cpt>. Accessed August 24, 2022.

American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS). <https://www.plasticsurgery.org>. Accessed August 24, 2022.

EmblemHealth/ConnectiCare Certificates of Coverage

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act (WHCRA).

https://www.cms.gov/CCIIO/Programs-and-Initiatives/Other-Insurance-Protections/whcra_factsheet. Accessed August 24, 2022.

U.S. Department of Labor. Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act (WHCRA). <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa/laws-and-regulations/laws/whcra>. Accessed August 24, 2022.

Revision History

| Company(ies) | DATE | REVISION |
|---------------------------|---------------|---|
| EmblemHealth/ConnectiCare | Aug. 12, 2022 | Moved the following CPT codes to always cosmetic table: 11200, 11201, 15832, 15833, 15834, 15835, 15836, 15837, 15838, 15839, 15876, 15877, 15878, 15879 and 65771 |
| EmblemHealth/ConnectiCare | Jun. 29, 2022 | Removed CPT codes 17110 and 17111 |
| EmblemHealth/ConnectiCare | May 31, 2022 | Added CPT codes 21806 and 21807 to generally cosmetic table Removed medical record review requirement for CPT codes 10040, 15730, 15733, 40500 |
| EmblemHealth/ConnectiCare | Apr. 20, 2022 | Re-listed CPT codes 21120–21123 in always cosmetic table to coincide with NYS Department of Financial Services list of cosmetic codes |

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| EmblemHealth/ConnectiCare | Feb. 15, 2022 | Added CPT 15829 to always cosmetic table Moved CPT codes 21120–21123 from always cosmetic table to generally cosmetic table with redirect links added to Obstructive Sleep Apnea Diagnosis and Treatment policies |
| EmblemHealth/ConnectiCare | Nov. 12, 2021 | Reformatted/reorganized policy. Consolidated the Individual ConnectiCare and EmblemHealth Cosmetic Surgery policies into a co-branded Cosmetic and Reconstructive Surgery policy |