LCD - Botulinum Toxins (L33646)

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Contractor Information

CONTRACTOR NAME	CONTRACT TYPE	CONTRACT NUMBER	JURISDICTION	STATES
National Government Services, Inc.	MAC - Part A	06101 - MAC A	J - 06	Illinois
National Government Services, Inc.	MAC - Part B	06102 - MAC B	J - 06	Illinois
National Government Services, Inc.	MAC - Part A	06201 - MAC A	J - 06	Minnesota
National Government Services, Inc.	MAC - Part B	06202 - MAC B	J - 06	Minnesota
National Government Services, Inc.	MAC - Part A	06301 - MAC A	J - 06	Wisconsin
National Government Services, Inc.	MAC - Part B	06302 - MAC B	J - 06	Wisconsin
National Government Services, Inc.	A and B and HHH MAC	13101 - MAC A	J - K	Connecticut
National Government Services, Inc.	A and B and HHH MAC	13102 - MAC B	J - K	Connecticut
National Government Services, Inc.	A and B and HHH MAC	13201 - MAC A	J - K	New York - Entire State
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National Government Services, Inc.	A and B and HHH MAC	13282 - MAC B	J - K	New York - Upstate
National Government Services, Inc.	A and B and HHH MAC	13292 - MAC B	J - K	New York - Queens
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National Government Services, Inc.	A and B and HHH MAC	14211 - MAC A	J - K	Massachusetts
National Government Services, Inc.	A and B and HHH MAC	14212 - MAC B	J - K	Massachusetts

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CONTRACTOR NAME	CONTRACT TYPE	CONTRACT NUMBER	JURISDICTION	STATES
National Government Services, Inc.	A and B and HHH MAC	14311 - MAC A	J - K	New Hampshire
National Government Services, Inc.	A and B and HHH MAC	14312 - MAC B	J - K	New Hampshire
National Government Services, Inc.	A and B and HHH MAC	14411 - MAC A	J - K	Rhode Island
National Government Services, Inc.	A and B and HHH MAC	14412 - MAC B	J - K	Rhode Island
National Government Services, Inc.	A and B and HHH MAC	14511 - MAC A	J - K	Vermont
National Government Services, Inc.	A and B and HHH MAC	14512 - MAC B	J - K	Vermont

LCD Information

Document Information

LCD ID

L33646

LCD Title

Botulinum Toxins

Proposed LCD in Comment Period

N/A

Source Proposed LCD

N/A

Original Effective Date

For services performed on or after 10/01/2015

Revision Effective Date

For services performed on or after 05/01/2021

Revision Ending Date

N/A

Retirement Date

N/A

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Notice Period Start Date

N/A

Notice Period End Date

N/A

CMS National Coverage Policy

Language quoted from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), National Coverage Determinations (NCDs) and coverage provisions in interpretive manuals is italicized throughout the policy. NCDs and coverage provisions in interpretive manuals are not subject to the Local Coverage Determination (LCD) Review Process (42 CFR 405.860[b] and 42 CFR 426 [Subpart D]). In addition, an administrative law judge may not review an NCD. See §1869(f)(1)(A)(i) of the Social Security Act.

Unless otherwise specified, italicized text represents quotation from one or more of the following CMS sources:

Title XVIII of the Social Security Act (SSA):

Section 1862(a)(1)(A) excludes expenses incurred for items or services which are not reasonable and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of illness or injury or to improve the functioning of a malformed body member.

Section 1862(a)(10) excludes coverage for cosmetic surgery.

Section 1833(e) prohibits Medicare payment for any claim which lacks the necessary information to process the claim.

Code of Federal Regulations:

42 CFR, Section 410.32, indicates that diagnostic tests may only be ordered by the treating physician (or other treating practitioner acting within the scope of his or her license and Medicare requirements) who furnishes a consultation or treats a beneficiary for a specific medical problem and who uses the results in the management of the beneficiary's specific medical problem. Tests not ordered by the physician (or other qualified non-physician provider) who is treating the beneficiary are not reasonable and necessary (see Sec. 411.15(k)(1) of this chapter).

CMS Publications:

CMS Publication 100-02, Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 8:

50.5 Drugs and Biologicals [Coverage of SNF services]

70 Medical and Other Health Services Furnished to SNF Patients.

CMS Publication 100-02, Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 12:

40.9 Drugs and Biologicals [Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) Coverage]

CMS Publication 100-02, Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15:

50.1-50.5 Drugs and Biologicals

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260 Ambulatory Surgical Center Services

CMS Publication 100-02, Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 16:

120 Cosmetic Surgery

CMS Publication 100-04; Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 17:

40 Discarded Drugs and Biologicals

CMS Publication 100-04; Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 30:

20.2.1 Categorical Denials

Coverage Guidance

Coverage Indications, Limitations, and/or Medical Necessity

Abstract:

Botulinum toxins are potent neuromuscular blocking agents that are useful in treating various focal muscle spastic disorders and excessive muscle contractions, such as dystonias, spasms, and twitches. They produce a presynaptic neuromuscular blockade by preventing the release of acetylcholine from the nerve endings. Since the resulting chemical denervation of muscle produces local paresis or paralysis, selected muscles can be treated. The clinical indications for Botulinum toxins have increased exponentially since first used two decades ago. They are used in the treatment of overactive skeletal muscles (e.g. hemifacial spasm, dystonia, spasticity), smooth muscles (e.g. detrusor overactivity and achalasia), glands (e.g. sialorrhoea and hyperhidrosis) and additional conditions that are being investigated.

There are currently four Botulinum toxin products commercially available in the United States: Botox® (onabotulinumtoxinA), Myobloc® (rimabotulinumtoxinB), Dysport™ (abobotulinumtoxinA), and Xeomin® (incobotulinumtoxinA). Each preparation has distinct pharmacological and clinical profiles specified on the product insert. Dosing patterns are also specific to the preparation of neurotoxin and are very different between different serotypes. Failure to recognize the unique characteristics of each formulation of Botulinum toxin can lead to undesired patient outcomes. It is expected that physicians will be familiar with and experienced in the use of these agents, and utilize evidence-based medicine to select the appropriate drug and dose regimen for each patient condition. Physicians may decide which agent to use in beneficiary care except as noted below. Although Botulinum toxins have only been FDA-approved for limited uses, they are frequently used off-label as well. A patient who is not responsive or who ceases to respond to one serotype may respond to the other.

This local coverage determination provides National Government Services' indications and limitations of coverage for these pharmaceutical products.

Indications:

Spasticity

Botulinum toxin can be used to reduce spasticity or excessive muscular contractions, to relieve pain, to assist with posture and walking, to improve range of motion, to enhance the effectiveness of physical therapy, and to reduce

severe spasm to allow better perineal hygiene in patients with spasticity secondary to spastic hemiplegia and hemiparesis.

Organic writer's cramp is uncommon, and so Botulinum toxin for the treatment of organic writer's cramp should be infrequent.

Botulinum toxin is indicated for disorders associated with spastic conditions as above and dystonia. Please note: covered spastic conditions are listed in Article A52848 under "ICD-10-CM Codes that Support Medical Necessity." The wide range of Botulinum toxin dosages used in a treatment session is determined by patient age, degree of spasticity, number of injections made into each muscle and number of muscles treated.

Electromyography or muscle stimulation, rather than site pain or tenderness, to determine injection site(s) for Botulinum toxin may be necessary, especially for spastic conditions of the face, neck and upper extremity.

OnabotulinumtoxinA is indicated for the treatment of lower limb spasticity in adult patients to decrease the severity of increased muscle tone in ankle and toe flexors (gastrocnemius, soleus, tibialis posterior, flexor hallucis longus, and flexor digitorum longus).

AbobotulinumtoxinA is indicated for the treatment of lower limb spasticity in adults.

Blepharospasm

Botulinum toxin injection therapy is accepted first line treatment for patients with blepharospasm and/or hemifacial spasm. If the upper and lower lid of the same eye and/or adjacent facial muscles, or brow are injected at the same surgery, the procedure is considered to be unilateral. Bilateral procedures will only be considered when both eyes or both sides of the face are injected.

Achalasia

Botulinum toxin for achalasia may be considered for the patient who has not responded satisfactorily to conventional therapy; is at high risk of complication from pneumatic dilation or surgical myotomy; has had treatment failure with pneumatic dilation or surgical myotomy; had perforation from pneumatic dilation; has an epiphrenic diverticulum or hiatal hernia; or has esophageal varices.

Anal Fissure

Botulinum toxin for chronic anal fissure may be considered for the patient who has not responded satisfactorily to conventional therapy.

Hyperhidrosis

OnabotulinumtoxinA has been approved by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) for treatment of severe primary axillary hyperhidrosis (primary focal hyperhidrosis) that is inadequately managed with topical therapy. Compendia list onabotulinumtoxinA and rimabotulinumtoxinB as acceptable off-label agents for this condition. The definition of primary focal hyperhidrosis is severe sweating, beyond physiological needs; focal, visible, severe sweating of at least six (6) months duration without apparent cause with at least two (2) of the following characteristics: bilateral and relatively symmetric, significant impairment in daily activities, age of onset less than 25 years, positive family history, and cessation of focal sweating during sleep.

Sialorrhea

The treatment of sialorrhea due to conditions such as motor neuron disease or Parkinson's disease in those patients who have failed to respond to a reasonable trial of traditional therapies (eg., anticholinergics and speech therapy) or who have a contraindication to or cannot tolerate anticholinergic therapy, will be allowed for coverage.

Urinary Incontinence

Urinary incontinence due to neurogenic detrusor overactivity (NDO) commonly occurs in patients with spinal cord injuries (SCI) or neurological diseases such as multiple sclerosis (MS). Patients with NDO usually use clean intermittent self-catheterization (CIC) to empty the bladder. When incontinence episodes occur between catheterizations, oral anticholinergic agents are used to decrease bladder contractility and improve incontinence.

OnabotulinumtoxinA is indicated for the treatment of overactive bladder (OAB) with symptoms of urge urinary incontinence, urgency, and frequency, in adults and patients five years of age and older who have an inadequate response to or are intolerant of an anticholinergic medication.

Headache/Migraine

Coverage will only be allowed for those patients with chronic daily headaches (headache disorders occurring greater than 15 days a month - in many cases daily with a duration of four or more hours - for a period of at least 3 months) who have significant disability due to the headaches, and have been refractory to standard and usual conventional therapy. The etiology of the chronic daily headache may be chronic tension-type headache or chronic migraine (CM). CM is characterized by headache on \geq 15 days per month, of which at least 8 headache days per month meet criteria for migraine without aura or respond to migraine-specific treatment. For continuing Botulism toxin therapy the patients must demonstrate a significant decrease in the number and frequency of headaches and an improvement in function upon receiving Botulinum toxin.

Limitations:

Medicare will allow payment for one injection per site regardless of the number of injections made into the site. A site is defined as one eye (including all muscles surrounding the eye including both upper and lower lids); one side of the face; the neck; or extremity and/or trunk muscle(s).

Failure of two definitive, consecutive, treatment sessions involving a muscle or group of muscles could preclude further coverage of the serotype used in the treatment for a period of one year after the second session. It may be reasonable, however, to attempt treatment with a different serotype.

Treatment of wrinkles using Botulinum toxins is considered to be cosmetic, and is not covered under Medicare.

Payment will not be made for any spastic condition of smooth muscle, such as spastic colon and biliary dyskinesia, or of any spastic condition not listed under "ICD-10-CM Codes That Support Medical Necessity" in Article A52848.

The cost of special syringes is not separately payable. They are considered part of the surgical procedure.

Summary of Evidence

N/A

Analysis of Evidence (Rationale for Determination)

N/A

General Information

Associated Information

N/A

Sources of Information

This bibliography presents those sources that were obtained during the development of this policy. National Government Services is not responsible for the continuing viability of Web site addresses listed below.

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N/A

Revision History Information

REVISION HISTORY DATE	REVISION HISTORY NUMBER	REVISION HISTORY EXPLANATION	REASONS FOR CHANGE
05/01/2021	R13	Based on an FDA label update, the indication for "Urinary Incontinence" has been updated to add "and patients five years of age and older" to the following paragraph:	Provider Education/Guidance
		OnabotulinumtoxinA is indicated for the treatment of overactive bladder (OAB) with symptoms of urge	

REVISION HISTORY DATE	REVISION HISTORY NUMBER	REVISION HISTORY EXPLANATION	REASONS FOR CHANGE
		urinary incontinence, urgency, and frequency, in adults and patients five years of age and older who have an inadequate response to or are intolerant of an anticholinergic medication.	
10/31/2019	R12	The following IOM sections have been corrected:	Typographical Error
		CMS Publication 100-02, <i>Medicare Benefit Policy Manual</i> , Chapter 12:	
		40.9 Drugs and Biologicals [Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) Coverage]	
		CMS Publication 100-02, <i>Medicare Benefit Policy Manual</i> , Chapter 15:	
		260 Ambulatory Surgical Center Services	
		CMS Publication 100-02, <i>Medicare Benefit Policy Manual</i> , Chapter 16:	
		120 Cosmetic Surgery	
10/31/2019	R11	The LCD has been revised to add the following indications which were inadvertently removed with the last update:	Typographical Error
		OnabotulinumtoxinA is indicated for the treatment of lower limb spasticity in adult patients to decrease the severity of increased muscle tone in ankle and toe flexors (gastrocnemius, soleus, tibialis posterior, flexor hallucis longus, and flexor digitorum longus).	
		AbobotulinumtoxinA is indicated for the treatment of lower limb spasticity in adults.	
		OnabotulinumtoxinA is indicated for the treatment of overactive bladder (OAB) with symptoms of urge urinary incontinence, urgency, and frequency, in adults who have an inadequate response to or are intolerant of an anticholinergic medication.	
10/31/2019	R10	Consistent with Change Request 10901, all coding	Revisions Due To

REVISION HISTORY DATE	REVISION HISTORY NUMBER	REVISION HISTORY EXPLANATION	REASONS FOR CHANGE
		information, National coverage provisions, and Associated Information (Documentation Requirements, Utilization Guidelines) have been removed from the LCD and placed in the related Billing and Coding Article, A52848. There has been no change in coverage with this LCD revision.	Code Removal
10/01/2018	R9	LCD revised for annual ICD-10-CM code updates. ICD-10-CM code G51.3 has been deleted and replaced by ICD-10-CM codes G51.31, G51.32 and G51.33 in Group 5 in the "ICD-10 Codes that Support Medical Necessity" section of the LCD. DATE (10/01/2018): At this time 21st Century Cures Act will apply to new and revised LCDs that restrict coverage which requires comment and notice. This revision is not a restriction to the coverage determination; and, therefore not all the fields included on the LCD are applicable as noted in this policy.	Revisions Due To ICD-10-CM Code Changes
06/16/2017	R8	Based on a practitioner request, ICD-10-CM code G43.011 has been added to Group 11 in the "ICD-10-CM Codes that Support Medical Necessity" section effective for dates of service on or after 10/01/2015. DATE (10/01/2017): At this time 21st Century Cures Act will apply to new and revised LCDs that restrict coverage which requires comment and notice. This revision is not a restriction to the coverage determination; and, therefore not all the fields included on the LCD are applicable as noted in this policy.	Request for Coverage by a Practitioner (Part B)
06/16/2017	R7	The following has been added to the "Indications" section of the LCD: Effective June 16, 2017, the FDA has approved abobotulinumtoxinA for the treatment of lower limb spasticity in adults. DATE (09/01/2017): At this time 21st Century Cures Act will apply to new and revised LCDs that restrict coverage which requires comment and notice. This revision is not a restriction to the coverage determination; and, therefore not all the	Provider Education/Guidance

REVISION HISTORY DATE	REVISION HISTORY NUMBER	REVISION HISTORY EXPLANATION	REASONS FOR CHANGE
		fields included on the LCD are applicable as noted in this policy.	
01/21/2016	R6	ICD-10 CM codes G83.31*, G83.32*, G83.33* and G83.34* were inadvertently included in the Revision History Explanation. These ICD-10-CM codes were not added to the Group 8 list of payable codes.	Typographical Error
01/21/2016	R5	FDA label update for onabotulinumtoxinA (effective 01/21/2016) has been added to the "Indications" section of the LCD under "Spasticity". ICD-10-CM codes G83.31*, G83.32*, G83.33*, G83.34*, G83.81*, G83.82*, G83.89*, I69.041*, I69.042*, I69.043*, I69.044*, I69.141*, I69.142*, I69.143*, I69.144*, I69.241*, I69.242*, I69.243*, I69.244*, I69.341*, I69.342*, I69.343*, I69.344*, I69.841*, I69.842*, I69.843*, I69.944* have been added to the Group 8: list of payable codes effective for dates of service on or after 01/21/2016. In the "Documentation Requirements" section of the LCD, "or lower limb" has been added to the following bulleted item: documentation of the medical necessity for this treatment. For spastic conditions other than upper or lower limb spasticity, blepharospasm, hemifacial spasm, cervical dystonia or other focal dystonias, documentation should include a statement that the spastic condition has been unresponsive to conventional treatment; Out-dated information has been removed throughout the LCD.	Provider Education/Guidance
10/01/2015	R4	The following paragraph in the "Indications" section under "Spasticity" has been corrected to add "upper extremity" Electromyography or muscle stimulation, rather than site pain or tenderness, to determine injection site(s) for Botulinum toxin may be necessary, especially for spastic conditions of the face, neck, and upper	Typographical Error

REVISION HISTORY DATE	REVISION HISTORY NUMBER	REVISION HISTORY EXPLANATION	REASONS FOR CHANGE
		extremity.	
10/01/2015	R3	The following paragraph in the "Indications" section under "Spasticity" has been revised to add "shoulder:"	Provider Education/Guidance
		Electromyography or muscle stimulation, rather than site pain or tenderness, to determine injection site(s) for Botulinum toxin may be necessary, especially for spastic conditions of the face, neck, hand and shoulder.	
		The "Utilization" section has been revised to indicate:	
		Dose and frequency should be in accordance with the FDA label. When services are performed in excess of established parameters, they may be subject to review for medical necessity.	
10/01/2015	R2	LCD updated to reflect administrative changes.	Provider Education/Guidance
10/01/2015	R1	The following ICD-10-CM codes have been added to Group 8 ICD-10 Codes that Support Medical Necessity: G24.9, G81.10*, G82.50*, G83.10* and G83.20* and ICD-10-CM code G04.1* has been removed. The following ICD-10-CM codes have been added to Group 10 ICD-10 Codes that Support Medical Necessity: H50.00, H50.10, H50.30, H50.40, H50.50 and H50.60.	

Associated Documents

Attachments

N/A

Related Local Coverage Documents

Articles

A52848 - Billing and Coding: Botulinum Toxins

Related National Coverage Documents

N/A

Public Versions

UPDATED ON	EFFECTIVE DATES	STATUS		
04/23/2021	05/01/2021 - N/A	Currently in Effect (This Version)		
10/21/2020	10/31/2019 - 04/30/2021	Superseded		
11/22/2019	10/31/2019 - N/A	Superseded		
10/25/2019 10/31/2019 - N/A Superseded				
Some older versions have been archived. Please visit the MCD Archive Site to retrieve them.				

Keywords

• Botox