



ND

Medical Policies



Print

Policy Number: G-43

Policy Name: Measurement of Exhaled Nitric Oxide

Policy Type: Medical

Policy Subtype: Miscellaneous

Effective Date: 09-15-2025

End Date: 11-02-2025

Description

Nitric oxide (NO) is an endogenous messenger and inflammatory mediator that is widespread in the human body. While the role of NO in asthma pathogenesis is still under investigation, individuals with eosinophilic asthma have been found to have high levels of fractional exhaled nitric oxide (FeNO), which decreases with treatment with corticosteroids.

In the gas phase, NO is fairly stable, permitting its measurement in exhaled air. FeNO is typically measured during single breath exhalations. First, the subject inspires NO-free air via a mouthpiece until total lung capacity is achieved, followed immediately by exhalation through the mouthpiece into the measuring device.

Policy Application

All claims submitted under this policy's section will be processed according to the policy effective date and associated revision effective dates in effect on the date of processing, regardless of service date.

Criteria

Coverage is subject to the specific terms of the member's benefit plan.

Measurement of exhaled NO (i.e., FeNO) may be considered medically necessary in the management of individuals with an **established** diagnosis of eosinophilic asthma.

Measurement of exhaled NO (i.e., FeNO) not meeting the criteria as indicated in this policy is/are considered not medically necessary.

Procedure Code

95012

Professional Statements and Societal Positions Guidelines

Not Applicable

Diagnosis Codes

***Note: Two (2) Diagnosis Codes are required - one (1) code from the asthma code grid below and one (1) eosinophilic asthma Diagnosis Code (J82.83).**

Covered Diagnosis Code for Asthma*: 95012

J45.20	J45.21	J45.22	J45.30	J45.31	J45.32	J45.40
J45.41	J45.42	J45.50	J45.51	J45.52	J45.901	J45.902
J45.909						

Covered Diagnosis Code for Eosinophilic Asthma*: 95012

J82.83

CURRENT CODING

CPT:

95012	NITRIC OXIDE EXPIRED GAS DETERMINATION	Medicaid Expansion
95012	NITRIC OXIDE EXPIRED GAS DETERMINATION	Commercial

References

1. Gao J, Zhang M, Zhou L, et al. Correlation between fractional exhaled nitric oxide and sputum eosinophilia in exacerbations of COPD. *International Journal of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease*.

2. Lu M, Wu B, Che D, Qiao R, Gu H. FeNO and Asthma Treatment in Children: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. Wang. Y, ed. *Medicine*.

3. Matsunaga K, Hirano T, Oka A, et al. Persistently high exhaled nitric oxide and loss of lung function in controlled asthma. *Allergol Int.* Jul 2016; 65(3):266- 271.
4. Blake TL, Chang AB, Chatfield MD, et al. Does Ethnicity Influence Fractional Exhaled Nitric Oxide in Healthy Individuals? A Systematic Review. *Chest.* Jul 2017;
5. Silkoff P, Laviolette M, Loza M, et al. Longitudinal stability of asthma characteristics and biomarkers from the Airways Disease Endotyping for Personalized Therapeutics (ADEPT) study. *Respiratory Research.* . Available from: MEDLINE Complete, Ipswich, MA.
6. Hayes, Inc. Hayes Medical Technology Directory Report. *Title of Report.* Lansdale, PA: Hayes, Inc.; Month 10, Year 2018.
7. Mostafavi-Pour-Manshadi S-M-Y, Naderi N, Barrecheguren M, Dehghan A, Bourbeau J. Investigating Fractional Exhaled Nitric Oxide in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and Asthma-COPD Overlap (ACO): A Scoping Review. *COPD: Journal of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.* 2018;15(4):377-391.

ND Committee Review

Internal Medical Policy Committee 11-19-20 Annual Review **Effective 1-4-2021**

- **Added** Procedure codes 11920, 11921, 19350, and 19499
- Per ND review outside of IMPC 4-19-2021 **Removed** procedure codes 11920; 11921; 19350 and 19499

Internal Medical Policy Committee 11-23-2021 Annual Review- no changes in criteria **Effective 1-3-2022**

Internal Medical Policy Committee 01-20-2022 **Updated** Diagnosis Codes for 95012, covered Diagnosis Codes. **Effective 3-7-2022**

Internal Medical Policy Committee 07-21-2022 Revision- **Effective 9-5-2022**

- **Updated** with clarifying language and Coding updates for Diagnosis Codes
- **Added** Diagnosis codes J45.901; J45.902; J45.909

Internal Medical Policy Committee 1-26-2023 Annual Review - no changes in criteria **Effective 3-6-2023**

Internal Medical Policy Committee 1-16-2024 Annual review-no changes in criteria **Effective 3-4-2024**

Internal Medical Policy Committee 7-16-2024 Revision - **Effective 9-2-2024**

- **Updated** wording in Diagnosis section; and
- **Added** Policy Application

Disclaimer

Current medical policy is to be used in determining a Member's contract benefits on the date that services are rendered. Contract language, including definitions and specific inclusions/exclusions, as well as state and federal law, must be considered in determining eligibility for coverage. Members must consult their applicable benefit plans or contact a Member Services representative for specific coverage information. Likewise, medical policy, which addresses the issue(s) in any specific case, should be considered before utilizing medical opinion in adjudication. Medical technology is constantly evolving, and the Company reserves the right to review and update medical policy periodically.

