



ND

Medical Policies



Policy Number: S-268

Policy Name: Endobronchial Valve Surgery

Policy Type: Medical

Policy Subtype: Surgery

Effective Date: 09-15-2025

End Date: 11-02-2025

Description

Bronchial valves are synthetic devices deployed with bronchoscopy into ventilatory airways of the lung to control airflow. They have been investigated for use in individuals who have prolonged bronchopleural air leaks and in individuals with lobar hyperinflation from severe or advanced emphysema.

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 service.

Diagnosis Codes

Covered Diagnosis Codes for Procedure Codes 31647; 31648; 31649; and 31651

J43.0	J43.1	J43.2	J43.8	J43.9	J44.0	J44.1
J44.9						

CURRENT CODING

CPT:

31647	BRNCHSC OCCLUSION&INSERT BRONCH VALVE INIT LOBE	Medicaid Expansion
31648	BRNCHSC REMOVAL BRONCHIAL VALVE INITIAL	Medicaid Expansion
31649	BRNCHSC REMOVAL BRONCHIAL VALVE EA ADDL	Medicaid Expansion
31651	BRNCHSC OCCLUSION&INSERT BRONCH VALVE ADDL LOBE	Medicaid Expansion
31647	BRNCHSC OCCLUSION&INSERT BRONCH VALVE INIT LOBE	Commercial
31648	BRNCHSC REMOVAL BRONCHIAL VALVE INITIAL	Commercial
31649	BRNCHSC REMOVAL BRONCHIAL VALVE EA ADDL	Commercial
31651	BRNCHSC OCCLUSION&INSERT BRONCH VALVE ADDL LOBE	Commercial

References

1. Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD). 2020 Global Strategy for Prevention, Diagnosis, and Management of COPD. 2020.
2. Dransfield MT, Garner JL, Bhatt SP, et al. Effect of zephyr endobronchial valves on dyspnea, activity levels and quality of life at one year. *Ann Am Thorac Soc.* 2020;17(7):829-838.
3. van Geffen, W, Slebos, D, Herth, F, et al. Surgical and endoscopic interventions that reduce lung volume for emphysema: A systemic review and meta-analysis. *Lancet Respir Med.* 2019;7(4).
4. Labarca G, Uribe JP, Pacheco C, et al. Bronchoscopic lung volume reduction with endobronchial zephyr valves for severe emphysema: A systematic review and meta-analysis. 2019; 98(3):268-278.
5. Criner GJ, Delage A, Voelker K, et al. Improving lung function in severe heterogenous emphysema with the spiration valve system (EMPROVE). A multicenter, open-label randomized controlled clinical trial. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med.* 2019;200(11):1354-1362.
6. S. Food & Drug Administration. Spiration Valve System. Summary of Safety and Effectiveness Data.
7. Hayes Inc. Hayes Medical Technology Directory. *Comparative effectiveness review of bronchoscopically placed coils or valves for lung emphysema: A review of reviews.* Lansdale, Pa: Hayes, Inc; 02/25/2019.
8. Hayes Inc. Hayes Evidence Analysis Research Brief. *Bronchoscopic removal of endobronchial valves in patients with persistent air leaks.* Lansdale, Pa: Hayes, Inc; 09/25/2019.
9. Hartman JE, Klooster K, Ten Hacken NHT, van Dijk M, Slebos DJ. Patient satisfaction and attainment of patient-specific goals after endobronchial valve treatment. *Ann Am Thorac Soc.* 2021;18(1):68-74.
10. Klooster K, Slebos DJ. Endobronchial valves for the treatment of advanced emphysema. 2021;159(5):1833-1842.

11. [Farver-Vestergaard I, Mousing C, Løkke A, et al. Endobronchial valvetreatment in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: A qualitative study ofpatients' expectations. *Sage Open Med.* 2023;11:20503121231205709.](#)
12. [Hartman J, Roodenburg A, van Dijk M, Koster D, Klooser K, Slebos D. Response to endobronchial valve treatment: It's all about the target lobe. *ERJOpen Res.* 2023;9.](#)

ND Committee Review

Internal Medical Policy Committee 11-19-2020 New Policy *Effective January 4, 2021*

Internal Medical Policy Committee 11-23-2021 Annual Review, no changes in criteria *Effective January 2, 2022*

Internal Medical Policy Committee 01-20-2022 Coding update- *Effective March 03, 2022*

- **Added** Diagnosis Codes J44.0; J44.1; J44.9

Internal Medical Policy Committee 07-16-2024 Revision - *Effective September 02, 2024*

- **Updated** language; 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.