



# Medical Policies



Policy Number:	S-9151		
Policy Name:	Composite Tissue Allotransplantation of the Hand		
Policy Type:	Medical	Policy Subtype:	Surgery
Effective Date:	09-15-2025	End Date:	11-02-2025

## Description

Composite tissue allotransplantation (also referred to as vascularized composite allotransplantation) refers to the transplantation of histologically different tissue that may include skin, connective tissue, blood vessels, muscle, bone and nerve tissue. It is also known as reconstructive transplantation. Primary applications of this type of transplantation have been of the hand and face (partial and full), although there are also reported cases of several other composite tissue allotransplantations, including that of the larynx, knee and abdominal wall.

Hand transplants have been shown to be technically feasible and have been done in individuals who lost a hand due to trauma or life-saving interventions that caused permanent injury to the hand.

Hand allotransplantation is surgical procedure and, as such is not subject to regulation by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (U.S. FDA). Any devices or drugs used in this procedure would be governed by the U.S. FDA.

## Policy Application

All claims submitted for this policy will be processed according to the policy effective date and associated revision effective dates in effect on the date of service.

## Diagnosis Codes

Not Applicable

CURRENT CODING

CPT:

26989	UNLISTED PROCEDURE HANDS/FINGERS	Commercial
26989	UNLISTED PROCEDURE HANDS/FINGERS	Medicaid Expansion

ND Committee Review

Internal Medical Policy Committee 5-23-2023 Adopted policy - *Effective July 03, 2023*

Internal Medical Policy Committee 5-14-2024 Annual Review - no changes to criteria *Effective July 01, 2024*

- *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.*