Subject: Bloodless Surgery*

Effective Date: March 22, 2005

Department(s): Utilization Management

Policy: The level of benefit for a bloodless surgical procedure shall be determined by the network status of the facility and the provider.

Objective: To assure consistent and proper reimbursement for a variant of services that, while requested by some patients, is based on cultural or religious imperatives rather than true medical necessity.

Procedure: Precertification and other administrative procedures relating to bloodless surgery shall be the same as for any surgery.

References:


Crookston KP. Approach to the patient who refuses blood transfusion. *UpToDate* v 15.1 Dec 22, 2006. Available at http://www.utdol.com/utd/content/topic/do?topicKey=transfus/13269&view=print Accessed 03/05/07


*Consistent with Summary Plan Description (SPD). When there is discordance between this policy and the SPD, the provisions of the SPD prevail.*