Subject: Reconstruction Post Breast Surgery*

Updated: April 27, 2010

Department(s): Utilization Management

Policy: Reconstructive breast surgery, surgery to restore and/or achieve symmetry between the two breasts, and the cost of prostheses, during or following mastectomy or other surgery for or prevention of breast cancer, are all reimbursable under Plans administered by QualCare, Inc.

Objective: To provide proper and consistent reimbursement for specific procedures not deemed cosmetic.

Procedure:

1. No time limit after the original breast surgery is applied to the performance of reconstruction or other surgery covered by this policy.

2. Procedures covered by this policy are reimbursed to the same extent as are those for other medical problems covered by the specific Plan.

3. Procedures reimbursable under this policy include but are not limited to the following (CPT or HCPCS code in parentheses):

   a. Breast implants (19325, 19340, 19342, C1789, L8600)
   b. Non-implant breast augmentation (19324)
   c. Removal of intact breast implant (19328)
d. Removal of breast implant material (19330)
e. Breast tissue expander procedures (19357)
f. Open periprosthetic capsulotomy, breast (19370)
g. Periprosthetic capsulectomy, breast (19371)
h. Flaps from an abdominal donor site, including but not limited to:
   i. TRAM flaps (19367-19369)
   ii. DIEAP (DIEP) flaps (S2067, S2068)
   iii. Free flaps (19364)
i. Latissimus dorsi flaps (19361)
j. Reconstruction of nipple-areolar complex (19350)
k. Tattooing for creation of nipple-areolar complex (11920-11922)
l. Reduction mammaplasty (19318)
m. Revision of reconstructed breast (19380)

References


Lipa JE. Breast reconstruction with free flaps from the abdominal donor site: TRAM, DIEAP, and SIEA flaps. Clin Plast Surg 2007;34(1):105-121 (Jan)


----- Benfits for reconstructive breast surgery. New Jersey Permanent Statutes Database. Title 17: Corporations and Institutions for Finance and Insurance. 17:48-6b. (Updated through P.L. 2006, c.97 and J.R.2) [http://lis.njleg.state.nj.us/cgi-bin](http://lis.njleg.state.nj.us/cgi-bin) accessed 09/25/06

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