Cosmetic and Reconstructive Surgery

Reimbursement Policy ID: RPC.0141.5420

Recent review date: 09/2026

Reimbursement policies and their resulting edits are based on guidelines from established industry sources, such as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the American Medical Association (AMA), state and federal regulatory agencies, and medical specialty professional societies. Reimbursement policies are intended as a general reference and do not constitute a contract or other guarantee of payment. The health plan may use reasonable discretion in interpreting and applying its policies to services provided in a particular case and may modify its policies at any time.

In making claim payment determinations, the health plan also uses coding terminology and methodologies based on accepted industry standards, including Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®); the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS); and the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM), and other relevant sources. Other factors that may affect payment include medical record documentation, legislative or regulatory mandates, a provider's contract, a member's eligibility in receiving covered services, submission of clean claims, other health plan policies, and other relevant factors. These factors may supplement, modify, or in some cases supersede reimbursement policies.

This reimbursement policy applies to all health care services billed on a CMS-1500 form or its electronic equivalent, or when billed on a UB-04 form or its electronic equivalent.

To the extent that any procedure and/or diagnosis codes are specified in this policy, such inclusion is provided for reference purposes only, may not be all inclusive, and is not intended to serve as billing instructions. Listing of a code in this policy does not imply that the service described by the code is a covered or non-covered health service. Benefit coverage for health services is determined by federal, state, or contractual requirements and applicable laws that may require coverage for a specific service. The inclusion of a code does not imply any right to reimbursement or guarantee claim payment. Other Policies and Guidelines may apply.

Policy Overview

The policy describes reimbursement of claims for cosmetic procedures and reconstructive surgery.

Exceptions

N/A

Reimbursement Guidelines

Cosmetic Procedures
Cosmetic surgery (except benefits for reconstructive breast surgery or reconstructive surgery) or other services primarily intended to correct, change, or improve appearances. The health plan does not cover Cosmetic procedures.

Reconstructive Surgery
Reconstructive surgery is covered when medically necessary, as determined, and must be operative procedures performed on structures of the body to improve or restore bodily function or to correct a deformity resulting from disease, trauma, or previous therapeutic.

Breast Reconstruction Following Mastectomy
Breast reconstruction following mastectomy for breast cancer is covered with authorization.

- Augmentation Mammoplasty
- Reduction Mammoplasty
- Mastopexy

Blepharoplasty
Blepharoplasty is covered when medically necessary and supported by clinical documentation demonstrating functional impairment (e.g., visual obstruction). Prior authorization is required.

Definitions

Cosmetic procedures
Cosmetic procedures are elective, aesthetic treatment designed to enhance, reshape, or alter body parts to improve appearance and boost self-confidence.

Reconstructive Surgery
Surgery or other procedures which are related to an injury, sickness, or congenital anomaly.

Edit Sources

I. Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) and associated publications and services.
II. Corresponding Clinical Policies.
III. Applicable manual reference.
IV. Applicable Medicaid Fee Schedule(s).

Attachments

N/A

Associated Policies

CCP.1184 Cosmetic surgery: plastic reconstructive surgery

Policy History

09/2026	Reimbursement Policy Committee Approval
09/2026	• Removed the next review date

	• Replaced the plan name with “the health plan”