QUANTITATIVE ELECTROENCEPHALOGRAPHY AS A DIAGNOSTIC AID FOR ATTENTION-DEFICIT/HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER

Coverage for services, procedures, medical devices and drugs are dependent upon benefit eligibility as outlined in the member's specific benefit plan. This Medical Coverage Guideline must be read in its entirety to determine coverage eligibility, if any.

The section identified as “Description” defines or describes a service, procedure, medical device or drug and is in no way intended as a statement of medical necessity and/or coverage.

The section identified as “Criteria” defines criteria to determine whether a service, procedure, medical device or drug is considered medically necessary or experimental or investigational.

State or federal mandates, e.g., FEP program, may dictate that any drug, device or biological product approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) may not be considered experimental or investigational and thus the drug, device or biological product may be assessed only on the basis of medical necessity.

Medical Coverage Guidelines are subject to change as new information becomes available.

For purposes of this Medical Coverage Guideline, the terms "experimental" and "investigational" are considered to be interchangeable.

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Description:

Individuals with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) may have alterations in their brain wave patterns that can be measured by quantitative electroencephalography (EEG). A commercially available system, the Neuropsychiatric EEG-based ADHD Assessment Aid (NEBA®), measures the resting theta/beta ratio of the EEG. This technology is being investigated to aid in the diagnosis of ADHD.
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Criteria:

➢ Quantitative electroencephalographic (EEG)-based assessment as a diagnostic aid for attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder is considered experimental or investigational based upon:

1. Insufficient scientific evidence to permit conclusions concerning the effect on health outcomes, and
2. Insufficient evidence to support improvement of the net health outcome, and
3. Insufficient evidence to support improvement of the net health outcome as much as, or more than, established alternatives, and
4. Insufficient evidence to support improvement outside the investigational setting.

Resources:

1. 3.01.03 BCBS Association Medical Policy Reference Manual. Quantitative Electroencephalography as a Diagnostic Aid for Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Issue date 10/10/2013.

FDA 510K Summary for Neuropsychiatric EEG-Based Assessment Aid for ADHD (NEBA) System:

- FDA-approved indication: NEBA uses the theta/beta ratio of the EEG measured at electrode CZ on patients combined with a clinician’s evaluation to aid in the diagnosis of ADHD. NEBA should only be used by a clinician as confirmatory support for a completed clinical evaluation or as support for the clinician’s decision to pursue further testing following a clinical evaluation. The device is NOT to be used as a stand-alone in the evaluation or diagnosis of ADHD.

NEBA system is a registered trademark of Lexicor Medical Technology, an independent corporation that is not affiliated with BCBSAZ.