MINIMALLY INVASIVE CORONARY ARTERY BYPASS GRAFT

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.

BLUE CROSS®, BLUE SHIELD® and the Cross and Shield Symbols are registered service marks of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, an association of independent Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans.

Description:

Minimally Invasive Direct Coronary Artery Bypass (MIDCAB):
Minimally invasive coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgery performed under direct vision, with a mini-sternotomy or a mini-thoracotomy approach without cardiopulmonary bypass (on a beating heart) through a small chest incision. MIDCAB may be performed as an alternative to traditional open CABG.

Port Access Coronary Artery Bypass (PACAB):
Minimally invasive CABG performed endoscopically using a video monitor instead of direct visualization. Cardiopulmonary bypass may or may not be used with this technique. Also known as total endoscopic coronary artery bypass (TECAB).

Hybrid CABG is the combination of PACAB with percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA) or balloon angioplasty. It is performed to treat multivessel coronary artery disease. Also known as integrated CABG.

PACAB, TECAB and hybrid CABG have been investigated as an alternative to traditional open CABG.
MINIMALLY INVASIVE CORONARY ARTERY BYPASS GRAFT (cont.)

Criteria:

Minimally invasive direct coronary artery bypass graft (MIDCAB) surgery as an alternative to conventional coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgery is considered medically necessary.

- All other techniques for minimally invasive coronary artery bypass graft surgery or if above criteria not met are considered experimental or investigational based upon:
  1. Insufficient evidence to support improvement of the net health outcome, and
  2. Insufficient evidence to support improvement of the net health outcome as much as, or more than, established alternatives, and
  3. Insufficient evidence to support improvement outside the investigational setting.

These techniques include, but are not limited to:
- Hybrid CABG
- PACAB
- TECAB

Resources:

MINIMALLY INVASIVE CORONARY ARTERY BYPASS GRAFT (cont.)

Resources: (cont.)

7. InterQual ® Care Planning Procedures Adult. Coronary Artery Bypass Graft.


