
Program Memorandum Intermediaries/Carriers

Department of Health &
Human Services (DHHS)
Centers for Medicare &
Medicaid Services (CMS)

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CHANGE REQUEST 2027

SUBJECT: Non-Contact Normothermic Wound Therapy (NNWT)

Scope

Based on a recent National Coverage Decision (NCD) §60-25 of the Coverage Issues Manual on Non-Contact Normothermic Wound Therapy (NNWT) has been added. The NCD decision is to not cover NNWT.

Background

NNWT is a device reported to promote wound healing by warming a wound to a predetermined temperature. The device consists of a noncontact wound cover into which a flexible, battery powered, infrared heating card is inserted. There is insufficient scientific or clinical evidence to consider this device as reasonable and necessary within the meaning of §1862(a)(1)(A) of the Social Security Act and will not be covered by Medicare.

Implementation

New codes were issued for NNWT effective 1/1/2002. The codes are as follows:

- E0231 - Non-contact wound warming device (temperature control unit, AC adapter, and power cord) for use with warming card and wound cover.
- E0232 - Warming card for use with non-contact wound warming device and non-contact warming wound cover.
- A6000 - Non-contact wound warming cover for use with the non-contact warming device and warming card.

Intermediaries and carriers must deny claims for these codes for dates of service on or after July 1, 2002 as not medically necessary. For dates of service prior to July 1, 2002, contractors should use individual consideration.

Provider Education

Intermediaries and carriers should publish this information in their next bulletin.

The *effective date* for this Program Memorandum (PM) is July 1, 2002.

The *implementation date* for this PM is July 1, 2002.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.

This PM may be discarded after April 1, 2003.

If you have any questions, contact Angie Costello at 410-786-1554 or acostello@cms.hhs.gov.

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