Coverage Summary

Artificial Disc Replacement, Cervical and Lumbar

Policy Number: L-005  Products: UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Plans  Original Approval Date: 06/22/2009
Approved by: UnitedHealthcare Medicare Benefit Interpretation Committee  Last Review Date: 09/18/2018
Related Medicare Advantage Policy Guideline: Lumbar Artificial Disc Replacement (LADR) (NCD 150.10)

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I. COVERAGE

Coverage Statement: Lumbar artificial disc replacement (LADR) is not covered for members over age 60. Coverage for LADR for members age 60 and younger will be based on the discretion of the local contractors.

Guidelines/Notes:

1. Lumbar Artificial Disc
   a. For the members over 60 years of age
      Lumbar artificial disc replacement (LADR) for the members over 60 years of age is not covered. See the NCD for Lumbar Artificial Disc Replacement (LADR) (150.10). (Accessed March 14, 2018)
   b. For members age 60 and younger (CPT codes 22857, 22862, 0163T, 0165T)
      • Medicare does not have a National Coverage Determination (NCD) for members 60 years of age and younger; coverage determination is to be made by the local contractor.
      • Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)/Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) exist and...
compliance with these policies is required where applicable. For state-specific LCDs/LCAs, refer to the LCD Availability Grid (Attachment A).

- **For states with no LCDs/LCAs**, see the UnitedHealthcare Medical Policy for Total Artificial Disc Replacement for the Spine for coverage guideline. **(IMPORTANT NOTE: After checking the LCD Availability Grid and searching the Medicare Coverage Database, if no state LCD/LCA is found, then use the above referenced policy.)**
- **Committee approval date: January 16, 2018**
- **Accessed April 27, 2018**

Also see the NCD for Lumbar Artificial Disc Replacement (LADR) (150.10), (Accessed April 27, 2018)

2. **Cervical Artificial Disc (CPT codes 22856, 22858, 22861, 22864, 0095T, 0098T, 0375T)**

- Medicare does not have a National Coverage Determination (NCD) for cervical artificial disc replacement.
- Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)/Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) exist and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. For state-specific LCDs/LCAs, refer to the LCD Availability Grid (Attachment B).
- **For states with no LCDs/LCAs**, see the UnitedHealthcare Medical Policy for Total Artificial Disc Replacement for the Spine for coverage guideline. **(IMPORTANT NOTE: After checking the LCD Availability Grid and searching the Medicare Coverage Database, if no state LCD/LCA is found, then use the above referenced policy.)**
- **Committee approval date: January 16, 2018**
- **Accessed April 27, 2018**

## II. DEFINITIONS

**Artificial Total Disc Replacement:** Refers to the replacement of a degenerating intervertebral disc with an artificial disc in adults with degenerative disc disease (DDD) in either the lumbar or cervical region of the spine. An artificial disc is intended to preserve range of motion (ROM) and reduce pain and was developed to simulate the motion of the natural spine and prevent adjacent disc degeneration. UnitedHealthcare Medical Policy for Total Artificial Disc Replacement for the Spine. (Accessed January 5, 2018)

**Lumbar Artificial Disc Replacement (LADR):** A surgical procedure on the lumbar spine that involves complete removal of the damaged or diseased lumbar intervertebral disc and implantation of an artificial disc. The procedure may be done as an alternative to lumbar spinal fusion and is intended to reduce pain, increase movement at the site of surgery and restore intervertebral disc height. Charite™ lumbar artificial disc is the only Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved lumbar artificial disc at this time. The FDA has approved the use of the Charite™ artificial disc for spine arthroplasty in skeletally mature patients with degenerative or discogenic disc disease at one level for L4 to S1. NCD for Lumbar Artificial Disc Replacement (LADR) (150.10). (Accessed January 5, 2018)

## III. REFERENCES

See above

## IV. REVISION HISTORY

09/18/2018 Updated Local Coverage Determination (LCD) Availability Grids; removed
instruction to “use the applicable LCD based on member’s residence/place and type of service” (this note only applies when selecting the appropriate DME LCD Policy)

01/16/2018 Annual review with the following updates:
Guideline 1.b (Lumbar Artificial Disc For members age 60 and younger) - Updated the applicable LCDs to include the most recent website links and effective dates related to the Cahaba-Palmetto jurisdiction transition; no change in guideline.
Guideline 1.b (Cervical Artificial Disc) - Updated the applicable LCDs to include the most recent website links and effective dates related to the Cahaba-Palmetto jurisdiction transition; no change in guideline.

03/21/2017 Annual review with the following updates to Guideline 2 (Cervical Artificial Disc):
- Added CPT code 0375T
- Added separate LCD Availability Grid (replaced Attachment A with the new Attachment B)

03/15/2016 Annual review; no updates to the guideline. Updated reference link(s) of the applicable LCDs to reflect the condensed link.

03/24/2015 Annual review with the following updates:
- Guidelines #1.b (Lumbar Artificial Disc for members age 60 and younger)
  - Changed default guidelines for states with no Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) from Noridian LCD for Artificial Disc (L24274) (retired) to Noridian LCD for Noncovered Services (L24473).
  - Added reference to CPT codes 22857, 22862, 0163T and 0165T
- Guidelines #2 (Cervical Artificial Disc)
  - Changed default guidelines for state with no LCDs from Noridian LCD for Artificial Disc (L24274) (retired) to Noridian LCD for Noncovered Services (L24473).
  - Added reference to CPT codes 22856, 22861, 22864, 0092T, 0098T, 0099T
- Removed reference to CPT code 0092T.

03/18/2014 Annual review; no updates.

04/29/2013 Annual review with the following updates:
- Guidelines #1.b (Lumbar Artificial Disc for members age 60 and younger)
  - Changed default guidelines for states with no Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) from Noridian LCD for Artificial Disc (L24274) (retired) to Noridian LCD for Noncovered Services (L24473).
  - Added reference to CPT codes 22857, 22862, 0163T and 0165T
- Guidelines #2 (Cervical Artificial Disc)
  - Changed default guidelines for state with no LCDs from Noridian LCD for Artificial Disc (L24274) (retired) to Noridian LCD for Noncovered Services (L24473).
  - Added reference to CPT codes 22856, 22861, 0092T, 0099T.

04/23/2012 Guidelines #1.b (Lumbar Artificial Disc/For members age 60 and younger) and Guidelines #2 (Cervical Artificial Disc) revised, i.e., changed the default guidelines for states with no LCDs from the UHC Medical Policy for Artificial Total Disc Replacement for the Spine to the Noridian LCD Artificial Disc (L24274).
08/29/2011  Annual review; updated Guidelines #2 & 3 to include the Noridian coverage language determination on artificial discs.

06/16/2011  Guidelines # 1 - Lumbar Artificial Disc updated to include the reference to the LCDs for NonCovered Services.

V. ATTACHMENT(S)

### Attachment A - LCD Availability Grid

**Lumbar Artificial Disc**
For members 60 and younger

(CPT codes 22857, 22862, 0163T, 0165T)

CMS website accessed April 27, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LCD ID</th>
<th>LCD Title</th>
<th>Contractor Type</th>
<th>Contractor</th>
<th>States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L33392</td>
<td>Category III CPT® Codes</td>
<td>A and B MAC</td>
<td>National Government Services, Inc.</td>
<td>CT, IL, MA, ME, MN, NH, NY, RI, VT, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L33777</td>
<td>Noncovered Services</td>
<td>A and B MAC</td>
<td>First Coast Service Options, Inc.</td>
<td>FL, PR, VI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L36219</td>
<td>Non Covered Services</td>
<td>A and B MAC</td>
<td>Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC</td>
<td>AS, CA, GU, HI, MP, NV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L35008</td>
<td>Non-Covered Services</td>
<td>A and B MAC</td>
<td>Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC</td>
<td>AK, AZ, ID, MT,ND,OR, SD,UT, WA, WY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L35094</td>
<td>Services That Are Not Reasonable and Necessary</td>
<td>A and B MAC</td>
<td>Novitas Solutions, Inc.</td>
<td>AR, CO, DC, DE, LA, MD, MS, NJ, NM, PA, OK, TX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L36954</td>
<td>Noncovered Services other than CPT® Category III Noncovered Services</td>
<td>A and B MAC</td>
<td>Palmetto GBA</td>
<td>AL, GA, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

End of Attachment A

### Attachment B - LCD Availability Grid

**Cervical Artificial Disc**

(CPT codes 22856, 22858, 22861, 22864, 0095T, 0098T, 0375T)

CMS website accessed April 27, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LCD ID</th>
<th>LCD Title</th>
<th>Contractor Type</th>
<th>Contractor</th>
<th>States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L33392</td>
<td>Category III CPT® Codes</td>
<td>A and B MAC</td>
<td>National Government Services, Inc.</td>
<td>CT, IL, MA, ME, MN, NH, NY, RI, VT, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L33777</td>
<td>Noncovered Services</td>
<td>A and B MAC</td>
<td>First Coast Service Options, Inc.</td>
<td>FL, PR, VI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L34555</td>
<td>Non-Covered Category III CPT Codes</td>
<td>A and B MAC</td>
<td>Palmetto GBA</td>
<td>AL, GA, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L36219</td>
<td>Non Covered Services</td>
<td>A and B MAC</td>
<td>Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC</td>
<td>AS, CA, GU, HI, MP, NV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L35008</td>
<td>Non-Covered Services</td>
<td>A and B MAC</td>
<td>Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC</td>
<td>AK, AZ, ID, MT,ND,OR, SD,UT, WA, WY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L35094</td>
<td>Services That Are Not Reasonable and Necessary</td>
<td>A and B MAC</td>
<td>Novitas Solutions, Inc.</td>
<td>AR, CO, DC, DE, LA, MD, MS, NJ, NM, PA, OK, TX</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

End of Attachment B