

**WellCare Health Plans, Inc.**  
*The WellCare Group of Companies*

# *Clinical Coverage Guideline*



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## **Topical Oxygen Wound Therapy**

**Guideline Number: HS-065**

**Original Effective Date: 12/4/2008**

**Revision Date: 12/14/2009; 12/28/2010**

The Clinical Coverage Guideline is intended to supplement certain standard WellCare benefit plans. The terms of a member's particular Benefit Plan, Evidence of Coverage, Certificate of Coverage, etc., may differ significantly from this Coverage Position. For example, a member's benefit plan may contain specific exclusions related to the topic addressed in this Clinical Coverage Guideline. When a conflict exists between the two documents, the Member's Benefit Plan always supersedes the information contained in the Clinical Coverage Guideline. Additionally, Clinical Coverage Guidelines relate exclusively to the administration of health benefit plans and are NOT recommendations for treatment, nor should they be used as treatment guidelines. The application of the Clinical Coverage Guideline is subject to the benefit determinations set forth by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) National and Local Coverage Determinations and state-specific Medicaid mandates, if any.

## Clinical Coverage Guideline HS-065

### Topical Oxygen Wound Therapy

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#### DISCLAIMER

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#### APPLICATION STATEMENT

The application of the Clinical Coverage Guideline is subject to the benefit determinations set forth by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) National and Local Coverage Determinations and state-specific Medicaid mandates, if any.

#### CLINICAL COVERAGE GUIDELINE

**Topical Oxygen Wound Therapy is considered experimental and investigational in all lines of business except New York Medicaid.**

**Topical Oxygen Wound Therapy is considered medically necessary and a covered benefit for New York Medicaid ONLY when criteria 1 and ANY of criteria 2-6 of the New York Medicaid TOWT guidelines are met:**

1. A complete wound therapy program as applicable, depending on the type of wound, has been attempted prior to application of TOWT, including:
  - a. Documentation in the patient's medical record of evaluation, care, compliance and wound measurements by the treating physician, **AND**
  - b. Application of dressings to maintain a moist wound environment , **AND**
  - c. Debridement of necrotic tissue if present, **AND**
  - d. Evaluation of and provision for adequate nutritional status, **AND**
2. Stage IV pressure ulcers:
  - a. The patient has been appropriately turned and positioned, **AND**
  - b. The patient has used a support surface for pressure ulcers on the posterior trunk or pelvis (not required if the ulcer is not on the trunk or pelvis), **AND**
  - c. The patient's moisture and incontinence have been appropriately managed,

**OR**

3. Neuropathic (for example, diabetic) ulcers:

- a. The patient has been on a comprehensive diabetic management program, **AND**
- b. Reduction in pressure on a foot ulcer has been accomplished with appropriate modalities,

**OR**

4. Venous insufficiency ulcers:

- a. Compression bandages and/or garments have been consistently applied, **AND**
- b. Leg elevation and ambulation have been encouraged,

**OR**

5. For non-healing surgically created or traumatic wounds, documentation of medical necessity for accelerated formation of granulated tissue as a result of which cannot be achieved by other topical wound treatments,

**OR**

6. A chronic (being present for at least 30 days) ulcer of mixed etiology.

***An initial prior authorization will be granted for a maximum of 16 days in a 28 day period, as treatment is 4 days on, 3 days off.***

**BACKGROUND**

Topical oxygen therapy involves the application of gaseous oxygen to a cutaneous wound. To treat an affected foot, a boot-shaped plastic bag with a gas inlet is attached to the leg with adhesive tape, then the bag is pumped full of pure oxygen. Cutaneous lesions that are not located on hands or feet can be treated with a plastic sheet that is sealed around the edges and then filled with oxygen. Regardless of the location of the lesion, oxygen is pumped into the bag or plastic sheet until the pressure reaches 1.004 to 1.04 atmospheres, since the elevated pressure is believed to facilitate diffusion of oxygen into the wound.

A pressurized bag sealed around an extremity can exert a tourniquet-like effect; during treatment, some practitioners continuously cycle bag pressure from full pressure to no pressure and back to full every 40 seconds to limit this effect. (from Hayes, 2002).

**CODING**

**CPT® Codes**

**No applicable codes**

**Covered HCPCS Level II @Codes**

HCPCS Codes A4575 with E1390 are covered when criteria 1 and any of criteria 2-6 noted above are met:

**A4575** Topical hyperbaric oxygen chamber, disposable

**E1390** Oxygen concentrator, single delivery port, capable of delivering 85 percent or greater oxygen concentration at the prescribed flow rate.

**ICD-9-CM Procedure Codes**

**93.59** Oxygenation of wound (hyperbaric)

## Covered ICD-9-CM Diagnosis Codes

The following diagnosis codes are covered when criteria 1 and any of criteria 2-6 noted above are met.

<b>249.70 - 249.71</b>	Secondary diabetes mellitus with peripheral circulatory disorders
<b>249.80 - 249.81</b>	Secondary diabetes mellitus with associated ulceration
<b>250.70 - 250.73</b>	Diabetes with peripheral circulatory disorders
<b>250.80 - 250.83</b>	Diabetes with associated ulceration
<b>443.81</b>	Peripheral Angiopathy related to Diabetes
<b>459.81</b>	Venous Stasis Ulcer, Venous (peripheral) insufficiency Unspecified
<b>707.00 - 707.09</b>	Stage IV Decubitis or Pressure Ulcers
<b>707.10 - 707.19</b>	Chronic Ulcer of other and unspecified sites
<b>707.24</b>	Stage IV Pressure Ulcer
<b>707.8 - 707.9</b>	Chronic, Trophic, Neurogenic Ulcer of other specified sites
<b>873.51</b>	Open wound of cheek, complicated
<b>873.52</b>	Open wound of forehead, complicated
<b>873.54</b>	Open wound of jaw, complicated
<b>873.59</b>	Open wound of face, other and multiple sites, complicated
<b>874.9</b>	Open wound of other and unspecified parts of neck, complicated
<b>875.1</b>	Open wound of chest (wall), complicated
<b>876.1</b>	Open wound of back, complicated
<b>877.1</b>	Open wound of buttock, complicated
<b>879.1</b>	Open wound of breast, complicated
<b>879.3</b>	Open wound of abdominal wall, anterior, complicated
<b>879.5</b>	Open wound of abdominal wall, lateral, complicated
<b>879.7</b>	Open wound of other and unspecified parts of trunk, complicated
<b>879.9</b>	Open wound(s) (multiple) of unspecified site(s), complicated
<b>880.10</b>	Open wound of shoulder region, complicated
<b>880.11</b>	Open wound of scapular region, complicated
<b>880.12</b>	Open wound of axillary region, complicated
<b>880.13</b>	Open wound of upper arm, complicated
<b>880.19</b>	Open wound of multiple sites of shoulder and upper arm, complicated
<b>881.10</b>	Open wound of forearm, complicated
<b>881.11</b>	Open wound of elbow, complicated
<b>881.12</b>	Open wound of wrist, complicated
<b>882.1</b>	Open wound of hand except finger(s) alone, complicated
<b>883.1</b>	Open wound of finger(s), complicated
<b>884.1</b>	Multiple and unspecified open wound of upper limb, complicated
<b>885.1</b>	Traumatic amputation of thumb (complete) (partial), complicated
<b>886.1</b>	Traumatic amputation of other finger(s) (complete) (partial), complicated
<b>887.1</b>	Traumatic amputation of arm and hand (complete) (partial), unilateral, below elbow, complicated
<b>887.3</b>	Traumatic amputation of arm and hand (complete) (partial), unilateral, at or above elbow, complicated
<b>887.5</b>	Traumatic amputation of arm and hand (complete) (partial), unilateral, level not specified, complicated
<b>887.7</b>	Traumatic amputation of arm and hand (complete) (partial), bilateral (any level), complicated
<b>890.1</b>	Open wound of hip and thigh, complicated
<b>891.1</b>	Open wound of knee, leg (except thigh), and ankle, complicated
<b>892.1</b>	Open wound of foot except toe(s) alone, complicated
<b>893.1</b>	Open wound of toe(s), complicated
<b>894.1</b>	Multiple and unspecified open wound of lower limb, complicated
<b>895.1</b>	Traumatic amputation of toe(s) (complete) (partial), complicated
<b>896.1</b>	Traumatic amputation of foot (complete) (partial), unilateral, complicated
<b>896.3</b>	Traumatic amputation of foot (complete) (partial), bilateral, complicated
<b>897.1</b>	Traumatic amputation of foot (complete) (partial), bilateral, complicated
<b>897.3</b>	Traumatic amputation of leg(s) (complete) (partial), unilateral, at or above knee, complicated
<b>897.5</b>	Traumatic amputation of leg(s) (complete) (partial), unilateral, level not specified, complicated
<b>897.7</b>	Traumatic amputation of leg(s) (complete) (partial), bilateral (any level), complicated

### **Covered ICD-9-CM Diagnosis Codes continued**

**958.3** Post-traumatic Wound Infection  
**998.83** Non-Healing Surgical Wound

\*Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) 2011 American Medical Association: Chicago, IL.®©

### **REFERENCES**

1. New York State Medicaid Topical Oxygen Wound Therapy Guidelines, March, 2008.
2. Hayes Directory. Topical Oxygen Therapy for Chronic Wound Healing - ARCHIVED: 2008. January 8, 2002.