

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska is proud to work with our provider network to serve your patients, our members. We are updating several medical policies. Please review the changes and effective dates outlined here:

## NEW MEDICAL POLICIES

### Medical Policy Pneumatic Pumps (programmable and nonprogrammable)

**Effective Date: 09/01/2024**

**Preauthorization Required: YES**

I. Single-compartment or multichamber **nonprogrammable** lymphedema pumps applied to the limb may be considered medically necessary for the treatment of lymphedema when:

A. The individual has diagnosis of:

1. Lymphedema of the extremities, **OR**
2. Edema for any reason of the extremities i.e. (after trauma/surgery/post DVT/pregnancy/post sclerotherapy), **OR**
3. Prevention of thrombosis.

II. Single-compartment or multichamber **programmable** lymphedema pumps applied to the limb may be considered **medically necessary** for the treatment of lymphedema when:

A. The individual has diagnosis of:

1. Lymphedema of the extremities, **OR**
2. Edema for any reason of the extremities i.e. (after trauma/surgery/post DVT/pregnancy/post sclerotherapy), **OR**
3. Prevention of thrombosis.

#### **AND**

B. There is documentation that the individual has unique characteristics (eg, significant scarring) that prevent satisfactory pneumatic compression with single-compartment or multichamber nonprogrammable lymphedema pumps.

III. Single-compartment or multichamber programmable lymphedema pumps applied to the limb are considered **investigational** in all situations other than those specified above Including:

- A. Use of pneumatic pumps to treat the trunk or chest without involvement of the extremities, **OR**
- B. Pneumatic pumps applied to the head and neck, **OR**
- C. Pneumatic pumps for treatment of venous ulcers.

## REVISED MEDICAL POLICIES

### Medical Policy I.105 Electrical Stimulation of Muscles and Nerves

**Effective Date: 09/01/2024**

**Preauthorization Required: YES**

**Additional policy statement:**

The use of subcutaneous tibial nerve stimulation is considered investigational for all indications.