 KMTSJ, Inc.	DEPARTMENT:	Utilization Management
	SUBJECT:	Pulse Oximeters
	PRODUCT LINE:	All
	POLICY NUMBER:	UM104
	ORIGINAL POLICY EFFECTIVE DATE:	11/25/2016
	LAST REVISED DATE:	11/07/2018
	LAST REVIEWED DATE:	02/21/2023

SCOPE: To ensure Group Health Cooperative of Eau Claire consistently and correctly administers pulse oximeter benefits to all members according to policy benefits and medical necessity criteria.

POLICY: It is the policy of Group Health Cooperative of Eau Claire to review prior authorization requests for pulse oximeters.

PROCEDURE: Prior Authorization Required: YES

Associated codes: E0445

All Product Lines: Covered when criteria are met


When absence of readily available saturation measurements represents an immediate and demonstrated health risk, such as in any of the following circumstances:

1. Member requires continuous/long-term monitoring (> 3 months) and has a trained caregiver available to respond to changes in the oxygen saturation level ordered by the physician; **AND**
2. Short-term (one month) monitoring when a change in the individual's physical condition requires a physician-directed adjustment in the liter flow of their home oxygen needs; or
3. When weaning the individual from home oxygen; or
4. Member is ventilator-dependent in the home; **AND**
5. Approval by a GHC physician reviewer

Pulse oximetry is **NOT** considered medically necessary for any of the following because there is inadequate scientific data in the medical literature to substantiate its effectiveness:

1. Routine testing in the absence of signs or symptoms suggestive of oxygen desaturation
2. Repetitive or continuous oximeter use for routine monitoring of an individual with oxygen with a stable respiratory condition while receiving oxygen therapy
2. The use of pulse oximetry in the home, as part of an individual's asthma management
3. Continuous monitoring for patients with COPD, pulmonary fibrosis, or other chronic lung disease

Reference source, if applicable: N/A

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Michele Bauer MD

APPROVED: _____

DATE: 02/21/2023

REVISION HISTORY:

Rev. Date	Revised By/Title	Summary of Revision
01/23/2019	Michele Bauer, MD, CMO	No changes
03/10/2021	Michele Bauer, MD, CMO	Reviewed. No changes.
02/22/2022	Michele Bauer, MD, CMO	Updated the review process.
02/21/2023	Michele Bauer, MD, CMO	Reviewed. No changes.