

TITLE:	VIRTUAL GASTROINTESTINAL ENDOSCOPY (CT COLONOGRAPHY) POLICY
POLICY #:	MM-PNP-021
VERSION #:	01
DEPARTMENT:	MEDICAL MANAGEMENT
ORIGINAL EFFECTIVE DATE:	10/01/2023
CURRENT REVISION DATE:	N/A

1. PURPOSE

This Clinical Policy addresses virtual gastrointestinal endoscopy pre authorization approval process.

2. SCOPE

Medical UM Department.

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1. N/A

4. POLICY

Medical Necessity

Curative considers virtual colonoscopy using computed tomography (CT colonography) performed every 5 years a medically necessary preventive service for colorectal cancer screening of average-risk asymptomatic persons 45 years of age or older.

- Curative considers diagnostic virtual colonoscopy medically necessary for colonic evaluation of:
 - Symptomatic members with a known colonic obstruction when standard optical colonoscopy is contraindicated; *or*
 - Symptomatic members with an incomplete colonoscopy (e.g., due to diverticulosis, obstructive or stenosing colonic lesions, or redundant colon); *or*
 - Members who are receiving chronic anticoagulation that cannot be interrupted; *or*
 - Members with complications from prior optical colonoscopy; *or*
 - Members with active diverticulitis and an increased risk of perforation; *or*
 - Members with increased sedation risk (e.g., chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or previous adverse reaction to anesthesia); *or*
 - Members who are symptomatic and require colon examination less than 12 weeks after colon surgery.
- Curative considers magnetic resonance enterography medically necessary for monitoring members with known inflammatory bowel disease (in particular, Crohn's disease) when small bowel disease or penetrating disease complications are present.

Experimental and Investigational

Curative considers virtual colonoscopy using CT experimental and investigational for all other indications not noted as medically necessary above including the following (not an

all-inclusive list) because its clinical value for indications other than those listed above, has not been established:

- Diagnosis of colorectal cancer or inflammatory bowel disease (Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis) in persons without known colonic obstruction or an incomplete optical colonoscopy due to obstructive or stenosing colonic lesions, with or without diverticulosis;
- Surveillance of colorectal cancer, or Lynch syndrome.

Curative considers virtual colonoscopy using magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) (also known as MRI colonography) experimental and investigational for the screening or diagnosis of colorectal cancer, diverticulitis, inflammatory bowel disease, or surveillance of Lynch syndrome, or other indications because its value for these indications has not been established.

- Curative considers virtual upper gastrointestinal endoscopy using CT for the detection and evaluation of upper gastrointestinal lesions experimental and investigational because its value for these indications has not been established.

5. PROCEDURE

5.1. N/A

6. TRAINING REQUIREMENT

6.1. All Medical UM associates are responsible for reading and comprehending this procedure. Employees are also responsible for contacting management or Privacy and Compliance with any questions or concerns regarding the information contained within this procedure.

7. ENFORCEMENT

Violations of this controlled document will cause the imposition of sanctions in accordance with the Curative sanctions-controlled document. This may include verbal/written warning, suspension, up to termination of employment or volunteer, intern, contractor status with Curative. Additional civil, criminal and equitable remedies may apply.

8. DOCUMENTATION

N/A

9. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND MATERIALS

9.1. Regulatory Authority

9.1.1. N/A

9.2. Internal - N/A

9.3. External - N/A

10. COLLABORATING DEPARTMENTS

10.1. N/A

11. DOCUMENT CONTROL

APPROVED BY:		
(Printed Name)	(Date)	(Signature)

REVISION HISTORY			
Date	Author	Version	Comments
			Initial Version

APPENDICES

Any applicable attachments, resources or other materials should be included as appendices in this section. Label each appendix as follows:

Appendix A: