

Clinical Policy: Intestinal and Multivisceral Transplant

Reference Number: LA.CP.MP.58

Date of Last Revision: 2/7/22

Coding Implications

Revision Log

See [Important Reminder](#) at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description

This policy describes the medical necessity criteria for the review of intestinal and multivisceral transplant requests.

Policy/Criteria

It is the policy of Louisiana Healthcare Connections that any of the intestinal and/or multivisceral transplantation procedures listed in **I** are **medically necessary** for pediatric and adult members/enrollees to restore function in those with irreversible intestinal failure when meeting the criteria in section **II**:

I. Transplantation Procedures

- A. Isolated *intestinal transplantation* is indicated for members/enrollees who have only isolated intestinal failure and no liver disease.
- B. Combined *intestinal and liver transplant* is indicated in those with intestinal failure and end stage liver disease.
- C. *Multivisceral transplant* is indicated in those with intestinal failure and gastrointestinal motility disorders (e.g., chronic idiopathic intestinal pseudo-obstruction, visceral myopathy, visceral neuropathy, total intestinal aganglionosis, and some forms of mitochondrial respiratory chain disorders that affect gastrointestinal motor function), or extensive mesenteric thrombosis.

II. Procedure Criteria: Members/enrollees must have one of the indications in **A** and none of the contraindications in **B**:

A. Indications, any one of the following:

- 1. Failure of total parenteral nutrition (TPN) as indicated by one of the following:
 - a. Impending or overt liver failure due to TPN, indicated by elevated serum bilirubin and/or liver enzymes, splenomegaly, thrombocytopenia, gastro-esophageal varices, coagulopathy, peristomal bleeding, or hepatic fibrosis/cirrhosis;
 - b. Thrombosis of ≥ 2 central veins, including jugular, subclavian, and femoral veins;
 - c. Two or more episodes of systemic sepsis due to line infection, per year, or one episode of septic shock, acute respiratory distress syndrome, and/or line related fungemia;
 - d. Frequent episodes of dehydration despite IV fluid supplementation;
 - e. Other complications leading to loss of vascular access;
- 2. High risk of death if transplant is not performed;
- 3. Severe short bowel syndrome (gastrostomy, duodenostomy, and/or residual small bowel <10 cm in infants and <20 cm in adults);
- 4. Frequent hospitalizations for complications directly related to intestinal failure;
- 5. Significant hepatic cirrhosis associated with diffuse post-mesenteric thrombosis;

B. Does not have ANY of the following contraindications:

1. Malignancy with high risk of recurrence or death related to cancer; except for non-melanoma localized skin cancer that has been treated appropriately, low grade prostate cancer, a malignancy that has been completely resected, or a treated malignancy determined to have a small likelihood of recurrence and acceptable future risks;
2. Other severe uncontrolled medical condition expected to limit survival after transplant;
3. Glomerular filtration rate < 40 mL/min/1.73m2 unless being considered for multi-organ transplant;
4. HIV infection with detectable viral load;
- ~~2. Untreatable significant dysfunction of another major organ system, unless combined organ transplantation can be performed;~~
- ~~3.5. Presence of other GI diseases;~~
6. Acute liver failure, or cirrhosis with portal hypertension or synthetic dysfunction unless being considered for multi-organ transplant;
7. Septic shock;
8. Progressive cognitive impairment;
9. Stroke, acute coronary syndrome, or myocardial infarction (excluding demand ischemia) within 30 days;
10. Chronic infection with highly virulent and/or resistant microbes that are poorly controlled pre-transplant;
11. Inability to adhere to the regimen necessary to preserve the transplant, even with caregiver support;
12. Absence of an adequate or reliable social support system;
13. Active substance use or dependence including current tobacco use, vaping, marijuana smoking, or IV drug use without convincing evidence of risk reduction behaviors, such as meaningful and/or long-term participation in therapy for substance abuse and/or dependence. Serial blood and urine testing may be used to verify abstinence from substances that are of concern.
- ~~4. Acute medical instability, including, but not limited to, acute sepsis or myocardial infarction;~~
- ~~5. Uncorrectable bleeding diathesis;~~
- ~~6. Chronic infection with highly virulent and/or resistant microbes that are poorly controlled pre-transplant;~~
- ~~7. Inability to adhere to the regimen necessary to preserve the transplant, even with caregiver support;~~
- ~~8. Absence of an adequate or reliable social support system;~~
- ~~9. Substance abuse or dependence (including tobacco and alcohol) without convincing evidence of risk reduction behaviors, such as meaningful and/or long-term participation in therapy for substance abuse and/or dependence. Serial blood and urine testing may be used to verify abstinence from substances of concern.~~

Background

Intestinal transplantation is a therapeutic option for patients with intestinal failure. Intestinal failure is the loss of absorptive capacity of the small bowel secondary to severe primary gastrointestinal disease or surgically induced short bowel syndrome (SBS). The normal small

intestine length varies widely, ranging from 3 to 8 meters. SBS occurs when there is approximately < 200 cm of small bowel remaining.

Multi-visceral transplantation includes the stomach, duodenum, pancreas, liver, and small intestine. A modified version excludes the liver if the recipient's liver is normal. A kidney transplant is occasionally included if the recipient has end-stage renal disease.⁵

Common indications for intestinal transplantation in children include:

- Small bowel atresia
- Gastroschisis
- Aganglionosis (Hirschsprung's disease)
- Infections such as necrotizing enterocolitis and mesenteric ischemia
- Intestinal pseudo-obstruction
- Microvillus inclusion disease
- Short gut syndrome
- Trauma
- Crohn's disease
- Midgut volvulus
- Massive resection secondary to tumor

Common indications for intestinal transplantation in adults include:

- Short gut syndrome
- Mesenteric ischemia following thrombosis, embolism, volvulus, or trauma
- Crohn's disease
- Small bowel tumors
- Small bowel secretory disorders
- Tumors of mesenteric root and retroperitoneum
- Trauma
- Volvulus
- Pseudo-obstruction
- Radiation enteritis

Guideline Recommendations

The British Society of Gastroenterology (2006) recommends: patients with SBS, including irreversible intestinal failure, expected to die prematurely on TPN, should be referred for consideration of short bowel transplant where appropriate.

The American Society of Transplantation (AST, 2001) issued a position paper on indications for pediatric intestinal transplantation. The AST recommends intestinal transplantation only for TPN-dependent children with intestinal failure who have or are likely to develop life-threatening TPN-related complications such as liver disease, recurrent sepsis, and threatened loss of central venous access. The AST stated that intestinal transplantation should not be performed solely because of continued dependence on TPN.

Coding Implications

This clinical policy references Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®). CPT® is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association. All CPT codes and descriptions are copyrighted 2020, American Medical Association. All rights reserved. CPT codes and CPT descriptions are from the current manuals and those included herein are not intended to be all-inclusive and are included for informational purposes only. Codes referenced in this clinical policy are for informational purposes only and may not support medical necessity. Inclusion or exclusion of any codes does not guarantee coverage. Providers should reference the most up-to-date sources of professional coding guidance prior to the submission of claims for reimbursement of covered services.

CPT® Codes	Description
44135	Intestinal allotransplantation; from cadaver donor
44136	Intestinal allotransplantation; from living donor
44715	Backbench standard preparation of cadaver or living donor intestine allograft prior to transplantation, including mobilization and fashioning of the superior mesenteric artery and vein
44720	Backbench reconstruction of cadaver or living donor intestine allograft prior to transplantation; venous anastomosis, each
44721	Backbench reconstruction of cadaver or living donor intestine allograft prior to transplantation; arterial anastomosis, each
47135	Liver allotransplantation, orthotopic, partial or whole, from cadaver or living donor, any age
47143	Backbench standard preparation of cadaver donor whole liver graft prior to allotransplantation, including cholecystectomy, if necessary, and dissection and removal of surrounding soft tissues to prepare the vena cava, portal vein, hepatic artery, and common bile duct for implantation; without trisegment or lobe split
47144	Backbench standard preparation of cadaver donor whole liver graft prior to allotransplantation, including cholecystectomy, if necessary, and dissection and removal of surrounding soft tissues to prepare the vena cava, portal vein, hepatic artery, and common bile duct for implantation; with trisegment split of whole liver graft into two partial liver grafts (i.e., left lateral segment (segments II and III) and right trisegment (segments I and IV through VIII))
47145	Backbench standard preparation of cadaver donor whole liver graft prior to allotransplantation, including cholecystectomy, if necessary, and dissection and removal of surrounding soft tissues to prepare the vena cava, portal vein, hepatic artery, and common bile duct for implantation; with lobe split of whole liver graft into two partial liver grafts (i.e., left lobe (segments II, III, and IV) and right lobe (segments I and V through VIII))
47146	Backbench reconstruction of cadaver or living donor liver graft prior to allotransplantation; venous anastomosis, each
47147	Backbench reconstruction of cadaver or living donor liver graft prior to allotransplantation; arterial anastomosis, each

HCPCS Codes	Description
S2053	Transplantation of small intestine and liver allografts
S2054	Transplantation of multivisceral organs
S2055	Harvesting of donor multivisceral organs, with preparation and maintenance of allografts; from cadaver donor
S2152	Solid organ(s), complete or segmental, single organ or combination of organs; deceased or living donor(s), procurement, transplantation, and related complications; including: drugs; supplies; hospitalization with outpatient

HCPSC Codes	Description
	follow-up; medical/surgical, diagnostic, emergency, and rehabilitative services; and the number of days of pre- and post-transplant care in the global definition

ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Codes that Support Coverage Criteria

ICD-10-CM Code	Description
A41.89	Other specified sepsis
A41.9	Sepsis, unspecified organism
K50.00-K52.9	Non-infective colitis and enteritis
K55.011-K55.9	Vascular disorders of intestine
K56.0-K56.7	Paralytic ileus and intestinal obstruction without hernia
K70.0-K77	Diseases of liver
P76.8	Other specified intestinal obstruction of newborn
P77.1-P77.9	Necrotizing enterocolitis of newborn
Q41.0-Q41.9	Congenital absence, atresia and stenosis of small intestine
Q43.1	Hirschsprung's disease
R65.20-R65.21	Severe sepsis
S35.299(A/D/S)	Unspecified injury of branches of celiac and mesenteric artery, initial, subsequent encounter and sequela
T86.850-T86.859	Complication of intestine transplant
Z94.82	Intestine transplant status

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Revision Date	Approval Date
Converted corporate to local policy.	08/15/2020	
Replaced contraindications of “severely limited functional status with poor rehabilitation potential” and those regarding past or current nonadherence to medical therapy, and psychological condition associated with the inability to comply with medical therapy with “Inability to adhere to the regimen necessary to preserve the transplant, even with caregiver support.” Changed “review date” in header to “Date of Last Revision” and “Date” in the revision log header to “Revision Date.” Added “and may not support medical necessity” in coding implications.	2/22	2/22
<u>Edited contraindications: Replaced “non-hepatic malignancy...” with malignancy with high risk of recurrence or death...”; added GFR restriction, added HIV infection with detectable viral load, added stroke, acute coronary syndrome, or MI; added acute renal failure...; added septic shock; added progressive cognitive impairment; replaced “untreatable significant dysfunction of another major organ system...” with “Other severe uncontrolled medical condition expected to limit</u>	<u>7/22</u>	

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Revision Date	Approval Date
<u>survival after transplant;” slightly reworded substance use contraindication; removed “acute medical instability...”; removed “uncorrectable bleeding diathesis.”</u> <u>Annual review. References reviewed, updated, and reformatted.</u> <u>Specialist reviewed.</u>		

References

1. Buchman AL, Scolapio J, Fryer J. AGA technical review on short bowel syndrome and intestinal transplantation. *Gastroenterology*. 2003;124(4):1111-1134. doi:10.1016/s0016-5085(03)70064-x
2. Buchman AL, Iyer K, Fryer J. Parenteral nutrition-associated liver disease and the role for isolated intestine and intestine/liver transplantation. *Hepatology*. 2006;43(1):9-19. doi:10.1002/hep.20997
3. National coverage determination: intestinal and multi-visceral transplantation (260.5). Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Web site. <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/search.aspx>. Published May 11, 2006. Accessed April 12, 2022.
4. Khan FA, Selvaggi G. Overview of intestinal and multivisceral transplantation. UpToDate. www.uptodate.com. Published September 16, 2020. Accessed April 12, 2022.
5. Gilroy RK. Intestinal and multivisceral transplantation. Medscape. <https://reference.medscape.com/>. Published May 24, 2018 (updated February 22, 2021). Accessed April 12, 2022.
6. Andacoglu, OM. Intestinal transplantation. Medscape. <https://reference.medscape.com/>. Published January 18, 2017 (updated March 16, 2021). Accessed April 12, 2022.
7. Kato T, Tzakis AG, Selvaggi G, et al. Intestinal and multivisceral transplantation in children. *Ann Surg*. 2006;243(6):756-766. doi:10.1097/01.sla.0000219696.11261.13
8. Kaufman SS, Atkinson JB, Bianchi A, et al. Indications for pediatric intestinal transplantation: a position paper of the American Society of Transplantation. *Pediatr Transplant*. 2001;5(2):80-87. doi:10.1034/j.1399-3046.2001.005002080.x
9. Kubal CA, Mangus RS, Tector AJ. Intestine and multivisceral transplantation: current status and future directions. *Curr Gastroenterol Rep*. 2015;17(1):427. doi:10.1007/s11894-014-0427-8
10. Levitsky J, Doucette K; AST Infectious Diseases Community of Practice. Viral hepatitis in solid organ transplantation. *Am J Transplant*. 2013;13 Suppl 4:147-168. doi:10.1111/ajt.12108
11. Lladó L, Fabregat J, Castellote J, et al. Management of portal vein thrombosis in liver transplantation: influence on morbidity and mortality. *Clin Transplant*. 2007;21(6):716-721. doi:10.1111/j.1399-0012.2007.00728.x
12. Mangus RS, Tector AJ, Kubal CA, Fridell JA, Vianna RM. Multivisceral transplantation: expanding indications and improving outcomes. *J Gastrointest Surg*. 2013;17(1):179-p.187. doi:10.1007/s11605-012-2047-7
13. Nightingale J, Woodward JM; Small Bowel and Nutrition Committee of the British Society of Gastroenterology. Guidelines for management of patients with a short bowel. *Gut*. 2006;55 Suppl 4(Suppl 4):iv1-iv12. doi:10.1136/gut.2006.091108

14. Holzheimer RG, Mannick JA, eds. *Surgical Treatment: Evidence-Based and Problem-Oriented*. Munich: Zuckschwerdt; 2001.
15. Tzakis AG, Kato T, Levi DM, et al. 100 multivisceral transplants at a single center. *Ann Surg*. 2005;242(4):480-493. doi:10.1097/01.sla.0000183347.61361.7a
16. U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs. HIV. Laboratory Tests and HIV: Entire Lesson. <https://www.hiv.va.gov/patient/diagnosis/labtests-single-page.asp>. Accessed April 12, 2022.
17. Vianna RM, Mangus RS, Kubal C, Fridell JA, Beduschi T, Tector AJ. Multivisceral transplantation for diffuse portomesenteric thrombosis. *Ann Surg*. 2012;255(6):1144-1150. doi:10.1097/SLA.0b013e31825429c0
18. Wu G, Cruz RJ. Liver inclusion improves outcomes of intestinal retransplantation in adults. [Corrected] [published correction appears in *Transplantation*. 2015 Aug;99(8):e118]. *Transplantation*. 2015;99(6):1265-1272. doi:10.1097/TP.0000000000000488
19. Bharadwaj S, Tandon P, Gohel TD, et al. Current status of intestinal and multivisceral transplantation. *Gastroenterol Rep (Oxf)*. 2017;5(1):20-28. doi:10.1093/gastro/gow045
20. Pironi L, Arends J, Bozzetti F, et al. ESPEN guidelines on chronic intestinal failure in adults [published correction appears in *Clin Nutr*. 2017 Apr;36(2):619]. *Clin Nutr*. 2016;35(2):247-307. doi:10.1016/j.clnu.2016.01.020
21. Hawksworth JS, Desai CS, Khan KM, et al. Visceral transplantation in patients with intestinal-failure associated liver disease: Evolving indications, graft selection, and outcomes. *Am J Transplant*. 2018;18(6):1312-1320. doi:10.1111/ajt.14715
22. Camilleri M. Chronic intestinal pseudo-obstruction: Etiology, clinical manifestations, and diagnosis. UpToDate. www.uptodate.com. Published February 17, 2022. Accessed April 12, 2022.
- ~~1. American Gastroenterological Association Clinical Practice Committee. AGA technical review on short bowel syndrome and intestinal transplantation. *Gastroenterology* 2003;124:1111-1134.~~
- ~~2. Bischel MD. Medical review criteria guidelines for managed care: Intestinal/multivisceral transplants. Apollo Managed Care Inc. Twelfth Edition, 2013.~~
- ~~3. Buchman, Alan L., et al. Parenteral Nutrition Associated Liver Disease and the Role for Isolated Intestine and Intestine/Liver Transplantation. *Hepatology*, 2006;43 1: pp. 9-19., doi:10.1002/hep.20997.~~
- ~~4. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. National Coverage Determination (NCD) for intestinal and multi-visceral transplantation (260.5). Effective May 11, 2006. Accessed April 29, 2021.~~
- ~~5. Khan FA, Selvaggi G. Overview of intestinal and multivisceral transplantation. In: UpToDate, Brown RS (Ed). Published Sept 16, 2020. Accessed April 29, 2021.~~
- ~~6. Gilroy RK. Intestinal and multivisceral transplantation. Medscape Reference, Shaprio R (Ed), Apr 6, 2015. Updated May 24, 2018.~~
- ~~7. Greenstein SM. Intestinal transplantation. Medscape Reference, Mancini MC (Ed). Updated March 16, 2021.~~
- ~~8. Kato T, et al. Intestinal and multivisceral transplantation in children. *Ann Surg*. 2006; 243(6):756-64; discussion 764-6.~~
- ~~9. Kaufman SS, Atkinson JB, Bianchi A, et al. American Society of Transplantation. Indications for pediatric intestinal transplantation: a position paper of the American Society of Transplantation. *Pediatr Transplant*. 2001;5(2):80-87.~~

10. Kubal CA, Mangus RS, Tector AJ. Intestine and multivisceral transplantation: Current status and future directions. *Curr Gastroenterol Rep*. 2015;17(1):427
11. Levitsky J, Doucette K. Viral Hepatitis in Solid Organ Transplantation. *Am J Transplant*. 2013; 13: 147–168.
12. Llad L, et al. Management of portal vein thrombosis in liver transplantation: influence on morbidity and mortality. *Clin Transplant*. 2007;21: 716721.
13. Mangus RS, et al. Multivisceral transplantation: expanding indications and improving outcomes. *J Gastrointest Surg*. 2013 Jan;17(1):179–86.
14. Nightingale J, Woodward JM. Small Bowel and Nutrition Committee of the British Society of Gastroenterology. Guidelines for management of patients with a short bowel. *Gut*. 2006;55(Suppl IV):iv1–iv12.
15. Nishida S. Pediatric intestinal and multivisceral transplantation. Medscape Reference, Greenstein SM (Ed). Published February 22, 2021. <http://emedicine.medscape.com/article/1013915-overview>
16. Troppmann C, Gruessner RW. Intestinal transplantation. In: Surgical Treatment: Evidence-Based and Problem Oriented, Holzheimer RG, Mannick JA (Ed), Munich: Zuckschwerdt; 2001.
17. Tzakis AG, et al. 100 multivisceral transplants at a single center. *Ann Surg*. 2005 October; 242(4): 480–493.
18. U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs. HIV/ AIDS. Laboratory Tests and HIV: Entire Lesson. Available at: http://www.hiv.va.gov/patient/diagnosis/labtests_single_page.asp
19. Vianna RM, et al. Multivisceral transplantation for diffuse portomesenteric thrombosis. *Ann Surg*. 2012 Jun;255(6):1144–50.
20. Wu G, Cruz RJ. Liver inclusion improves outcomes of intestinal retransplantation in adults. *Transplantation* 2015; 99:1265.
21. Dunn CP. Intestinal Transplantation. Medscape Reference. Mancini MC (Ed), January 18, 2017.
22. Bharadwaj S, Tandon P, Gohel TD, et al. Current status of intestinal and multivisceral transplantation. *Gastroenterol Rep (Oxf)*. 2017 Feb;5(1):20–28.
23. Pironi L, Arends J, Bozzetti F, et al. ESPEN guidelines on chronic intestinal failure in adults. *Clin Nutr*. 2016 Apr;35(2):247–307
24. Hawksworth JS, Desaid CS, Khan KM, et al. Visceral transplantation in patients with intestine failure associated liver disease: evolving indications, graft selection, and outcomes. *Am J Transplant*. 2018 Jun; 18(6): 1312–1320.
25. Camilleri M. Chronic intestinal pseudo-obstruction. In: UpToDate, Friedman LS (Ed.), Published February 4, 2021. Accessed April 29, 2021.

Important Reminder

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical policy; and other available clinical information. LHCC makes no representations and accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing

this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved.

The purpose of this clinical policy is to provide a guide to medical necessity, which is a component of the guidelines used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Coverage decisions and the administration of benefits are subject to all terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of the coverage documents (e.g., evidence of coverage, certificate of coverage, policy, contract of insurance, etc.), as well as to state and federal requirements and applicable LHCC administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by LHCC. The date of posting may not be the effective date of this clinical policy. This clinical policy may be subject to applicable legal and regulatory requirements relating to provider notification. If there is a discrepancy between the effective date of this clinical policy and any applicable legal or regulatory requirement, the requirements of law and regulation shall govern. LHCC retains the right to change, amend or withdraw this clinical policy, and additional clinical policies may be developed and adopted as needed, at any time.

This clinical policy does not constitute medical advice, medical treatment or medical care. It is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine. Providers are expected to exercise professional medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care, and are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of members/enrollees. This clinical policy is not intended to recommend treatment for members/enrollees. Members/enrollees should consult with their treating physician in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

Providers referred to in this clinical policy are independent contractors who exercise independent judgment and over whom LHCC has no control or right of control. Providers are not agents or employees of LHCC.

This clinical policy is the property of LHCC. Unauthorized copying, use, and distribution of this clinical policy or any information contained herein are strictly prohibited. Providers, members/enrollees and their representatives are bound to the terms and conditions expressed herein through the terms of their contracts. Where no such contract exists, providers, members/enrollees and their representatives agree to be bound by such terms and conditions by providing services to members/enrollees and/or submitting claims for payment for such services.

©2020 Louisiana Healthcare Connections. All rights reserved. All materials are exclusively owned by Louisiana Healthcare Connections and are protected by United States copyright law and international copyright law. No part of this publication may be reproduced, copied, modified, distributed, displayed, stored in a retrieval system, transmitted in any form or by any means, or otherwise published without the prior written permission of Louisiana Healthcare Connections. You may not alter or remove any trademark, copyright or other notice contained herein. Louisiana Healthcare Connections is a registered trademark exclusively owned by Louisiana Healthcare Connections.

