

Highmark Commercial Medical Policy- NY

Medical Policy:	E-93-001
Topic (or Title):	Scalp Cooling Treatment
Section:	Durable Medical Equipment
Effective Date:	January 1, 2026
Issued Date:	January 1, 2026
Last Revision Date:	November 2025
Annual Review:	November 2025

We Cover scalp cooling systems used in connection with chemotherapy for cancer. A “scalp cooling system” means any device used to cool the human scalp to prevent or reduce hair loss during cancer chemotherapy treatment, provided such device is designed and intended for repeated use and is primarily and customarily used to serve a medical purpose.

Currently, there are three (3) Federal Drug Administration (FDA) approved automated scalp cooling systems: DigniCap, Paxman, and Amma.

Policy Position

New York State Mandate

Effective January 1, 2026, New York Insurance Law § 4303 (q-2) requires that a health insurance issuer provide coverage for scalp cooling systems used in connection with cancer chemotherapy treatment in every large group contract delivered in the state that provides coverage for cancer chemotherapy treatment.

Scalp cooling system means any device used to cool the human scalp to prevent or reduce hair loss during cancer chemotherapy treatment, provided that such device is designed and intended for repeated use and is primarily and customarily used to serve a medical purpose.

The use of a scalp cooling system that is FDA approved is considered medically necessary for **ALL** of the following indications:

- Individual must be at least 18 years of age. Exceptions may apply if an FDA-approved device specifies an alternative minimum age; **and**
- Individual is receiving chemotherapy to treat solid tumor cancers such as, but not limited to, breast, ovarian, other gynecologic, lung and prostate cancers; **and**
- The individual must be undergoing a chemotherapy regimen known to cause hair loss (alopecia).

The use of a scalp cooling system not meeting the criteria as indicated in this policy is considered not medically necessary.

Procedure Codes

0662T 0663T

Professional Statements and Societal Positions

National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Breast Cancer Version 3.2025

The NCCN Panel recommends considering scalp cooling to reduce incidence of chemotherapy-induced alopecia for patients receiving chemotherapy. The data on efficacy of scalp cooling is mainly from the adjuvant setting and also show that results may be less effective with anthracycline-containing regimens.

Place of Service: Inpatient/Outpatient

Scalp cooling is typically an outpatient procedure which is only eligible for coverage as an inpatient procedure in special circumstances, including, but not limited to, the presence of a co-morbid condition that would require monitoring in a more controlled environment such as the inpatient setting.

The policy position applies to all commercial lines of business

Links

- [Link to Provider Resource Center for the Medical Policy Update](#)
- [Link to References](#)

This policy is designed to address medical guidelines that are appropriate for the majority of individuals with a particular disease, illness, or condition. Each person's unique clinical or other circumstances may warrant individual consideration, based on review of applicable medical records, as well as other regulatory, contractual and/or legal requirements.

Medical policies do not constitute medical advice, nor are they intended to govern the practice of medicine. They are intended to reflect Highmark's reimbursement and coverage guidelines. Coverage for services may vary for individual members, based on the terms of the benefit contract, and subject to the applicable laws of your state.

Highmark retains the right to review and update its medical policy guidelines at its sole discretion. These guidelines are the proprietary information of Highmark. Any sale, copying or dissemination of the medical policies is prohibited; however, limited copying of medical policies is permitted for individual use.

Discrimination is Against the Law

The Claims Administrator/Insurer complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. The Claims Administrator/Insurer does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. The Claims Administrator/ Insurer:

- *Provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:*
 - *Qualified sign language interpreters*
 - *Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats)*
- *Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:*
 - *Qualified interpreters*
 - *Information written in other languages*

If you need these services, contact the Civil Rights Coordinator.

If you believe that the Claims Administrator/Insurer has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with: Civil Rights Coordinator, P.O. Box 22492, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, Phone: 1-866-286-8295, TTY: 711, Fax: 412-544-2475, email: CivilRightsCoordinator@highmarkhealth.org. You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a grievance, the Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or by mail or phone at:

*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 509F, HHH Building
Washington, D.C. 20201
1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)*

Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

Insurance or benefit/claims administration may be provided by Highmark, Highmark Choice Company, Highmark Coverage Advantage, Highmark Health Insurance Company, First Priority Life Insurance Company, First Priority Health, Highmark Benefits Group, Highmark Select Resources, Highmark Senior Solutions Company or Highmark Senior Health Company, all of which are independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, an association of independent Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans.

ATTENTION: If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call the number on the back of your ID card (TTY: 711).

ATENCIÓN: Si usted habla español, servicios de asistencia lingüística, de forma gratuita, están disponibles para usted. Llame al número en la parte posterior de su tarjeta de identificación (TTY: 711).

请注意：如果您说中文，可向您提供免费语言协助服务。

请拨打您的身份证背面的号码（TTY：711）。

CHÚ Ý: Nếu quý vị nói tiếng Việt, chúng tôi cung cấp dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí cho quý vị. Xin gọi số điện thoại ở mặt sau thẻ ID của quý vị (TTY: 711).

알림: 한국어를 사용하시는 분들을 위해 무료 통역이 제공됩니다. ID 카드 뒷면에 있는 번호로 전화하십시오 (TTY: 711).

ATENSYON: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, may makukuha kang mga libreng serbisyong tulong sa wika. Tawagan ang numero sa likod ng iyong ID card (TTY: 711).

ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите по-русски, вы можете воспользоваться бесплатными услугами языковой поддержки. Позвоните по номеру, указанному на обороте вашей идентификационной карты (номер для текст-телефонных устройств (TTY): 711).

تنبيه: إذا كنت تتحدث اللغة العربية، فهناك خدمات المعاونة في اللغة المجانية متاحة لك. اتصل بالرقم الموجود خلف بطاقة هويتك (جهاز الاتصال لذوي صعوبات السمع والنطق: 711).

ATTENTION: Si c'est créole que vous connaissez, il y a un certain service de langues qui est gratis et disponible pour vous-même. Composez le numéro qui est au dos de votre carte d'identité. (TTY: 711).

ATTENTION: Si vous parlez français, les services d'assistance linguistique, gratuitement, sont à votre disposition. Appelez le numéro au dos de votre carte d'identité (TTY: 711).

UWAGA: Dla osób mówiących po polsku dostępna jest bezpłatna pomoc językowa. Zadzwoń pod numer podany na odwrocie karty ubezpieczenia zdrowotnego (TTY: 711).

ATENÇÃO: Se a sua língua é o português, temos atendimento gratuito para você no seu idioma. Ligue para o número no verso da sua identidade (TTY: 711).

ATTENZIONE: se parla italiano, per lei sono disponibili servizi di assistenza linguistica a titolo gratuito. Contatti il numero riportato sul retro della sua carta d'identità (TTY: 711).

ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, steht Ihnen unsere fremdsprachliche Unterstützung kostenlos zur Verfügung. Rufen Sie dazu die auf der Rückseite Ihres Versicherungsausweises (TTY: 711) aufgeführte Nummer an.

注：日本語が母国語の方は言語アシスタンス・サービスを無料でご利用いただけます。IDカードの裏に明記されている番号に電話をおかけください (TTY: 711)。

توجه : اگر شما به زبان فارسی صحبت می کنید، خدمات کمک زبان، به صورت رایگان، در دسترس شماست. با شماره واقع در پشت کارت شناسایی خود (TTY: 711) تماس بگیرید.