



**Kansas City**

An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

## **Hematopoietic Stem-Cell Transplantation for Miscellaneous Solid Tumors in Adults**

**Policy Number:** 8.01.24

**Origination:** 9/2002

**Last Review:** 12/2013

**Next Review:** 12/2014

### **Policy**

---

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City (Blue KC) will not provide coverage for hematopoietic stem-cell transplantation for miscellaneous solid tumors in adults. This is considered investigational.

### **When Policy Topic is covered**

---

Not Applicable

### **When Policy Topic is not covered**

---

Autologous or allogeneic stem-cell transplant is **investigational** for the following malignancies:

- Cancer of the bile duct
- Cancer of the fallopian tubes
- Cervical cancer
- Colon cancer
- Esophageal cancer
- Gall bladder cancer
- Lung cancer, any histology
- Malignant melanoma
- Nasopharyngeal cancer
- Neuroendocrine tumors
- Pancreas cancer
- Paranasal sinus cancer
- Prostate cancer
- Rectal cancer
- Renal cell cancer
- Soft tissue sarcomas
- Stomach cancer
- Thyroid tumors
- Tumors of the thymus
- Tumors of unknown primary origin
- Uterine cancer

### **Considerations**

---

Clinical trials for conditions other than those allowed in this policy may be available in the research setting. However, these trials are considered investigational and/or experimental and therefore contract exclusions.

*Note: There are some state mandates in place that require insurance carriers to cover certain clinical trials under very specific guidelines. Please contact your BCBSKC representative for more information.*

### **Description of Procedure or Service**

---

## **Hematopoietic Stem-Cell Transplantation**

Hematopoietic stem-cell transplantation (SCT) refers to a procedure in which hematopoietic stem cells are infused to restore bone marrow function in cancer patients who receive bone marrow toxic doses of cytotoxic drugs with or without whole body radiation therapy. Bone marrow stem cells may be obtained from the transplant recipient (autologous SCT) or from a donor (allogeneic SCT). They can be harvested from bone marrow, peripheral blood, or umbilical cord blood and placenta shortly after delivery of neonates. Although cord blood is an allogeneic source, the stem cells in it are antigenically “naïve” and thus are associated with a lower incidence of rejection or graft versus host disease. Cord blood is discussed in greater detail in policy No. 7.01.50.

Immunologic compatibility between infused stem cells and the recipient is not an issue in autologous SCT. However, immunologic compatibility between donor and patient is a critical factor for achieving a good outcome of allogeneic SCT. Compatibility is established by typing of human leukocyte antigens (HLA) using cellular, serologic, or molecular techniques. HLA refers to the tissue type expressed at the HLA A, B, and DR loci on each arm of chromosome 6. Depending on the disease being treated, an acceptable donor will match the patient at all or most of the HLA loci.

## **Conventional Preparative Conditioning for Hematopoietic SCT**

The conventional practice of allogeneic SCT involves administration of myelotoxic agents (e.g., cyclophosphamide, busulfan) with or without total body irradiation at doses sufficient to cause bone marrow failure. The beneficial treatment effect in this procedure results from chemotherapeutic eradication of malignant cells with an associated immune-mediated graft-versus-malignancy effect. While such treatment may eliminate the malignant cells, patients are as likely to die from opportunistic infections, graft-versus-host disease, and organ failure as from the underlying malignancy. Autologous SCT necessitates myeloablative chemotherapy to eradicate cancerous cells, with subsequent engraftment and repopulation of the bone marrow space with hematopoietic progenitor cells. Patients who undergo autologous SCT are susceptible to toxicities related to chemotherapy and opportunistic infections prior to engraftment, but not graft-versus-host disease.

## **Reduced-Intensity Conditioning for Allogeneic SCT**

Reduced-intensity conditioning (RIC) refers to chemotherapy regimens that seek to reduce adverse effects secondary to bone marrow toxicity while retaining the beneficial graft-versus-malignancy effect of allogeneic transplantation. These regimens do not eradicate the patient’s hematopoietic ability, thereby allowing for relatively prompt hematopoietic recovery (e.g., 28 days or less) even without a transplant. Patients who undergo RIC with allogeneic SCT initially demonstrate donor cell engraftment and bone marrow mixed chimerism. Most will subsequently convert to full-donor chimerism, which may be supplemented with donor lymphocyte infusions to eradicate residual malignant cells. A number of different cytotoxic regimens, with or without radiotherapy, may be used for RIC allotransplantation. They represent a continuum in their effects, from nearly totally myeloablative, to minimally myeloablative with lymphoablation.

## **SCT in Solid Tumors in Adults**

SCT is an established treatment for certain hematologic malignancies, however, its use in solid tumors in adults continues to be largely experimental. Initial enthusiasm for the use of autologous transplant with the use of high-dose chemotherapy and stem cells for solid tumors has waned with the realization that dose intensification often fails to improve survival, even in tumors with a linear-dose response to chemotherapy. (1) With the advent of nonmyeloablative allogeneic transplant, interest has shifted to exploring the generation of alloreactivity to metastatic solid tumors via a graft-versus-tumor effect of donor-derived T cells. (2)

## **Miscellaneous Solid Tumors in Adults**

Hematopoietic SCT as a treatment either of breast, ovarian, or testicular cancer, ependymoma, or malignant glioma is addressed in separate policies, No. 8.01.27, 8.01.23, 8.01.15, 8.01.28, or 8.01.31, respectively. This policy collectively addresses other solid tumors of adults for which SCT has been investigated, including lung cancer; malignant melanoma; tumors of the gastrointestinal tract (include

colon, rectum, pancreas, stomach, esophagus, gallbladder, and bile duct); male and female genitourinary systems (e.g., renal cell carcinoma, cervical carcinoma, cancer of the uterus, fallopian tubes, and prostate gland); tumors of the head and neck; soft tissue sarcoma; thyroid tumors; tumors of the thymus; and tumors of unknown primary origin.

## **Rationale**

---

### **Literature Review**

This policy has been updated annually, with the most recent MEDLINE literature search performed through September 26, 2013.

This policy was initially based on a 1995 TEC Assessment that focused on the malignancies listed in the Policy section. (3) The Assessment offered the following conclusions:

- While 125 articles were identified that reported on the results of HSCT in a variety of solid tumors, only 17 included survival data from groups of patients with the same cancer. These studies reported on 4 indications: advanced small-cell lung cancer, advanced colorectal cancer, malignant melanomas, and inoperable gastric cancer.
- The evidence did not permit conclusions as to the effect of HSCT on patient survival.
- 

A 1999 TEC Assessment evaluated the use of allogeneic hematopoietic stem-cell transplantation (HSCT) as a salvage therapy after a failed prior autologous HSCT for solid tumors. (4) Data were inadequate to permit conclusions.

### **Autologous HSCT in Solid Tumors of Adults**

Data on the use of autologous HSCT for the solid tumors of adults addressed in this policy consist mainly of anecdotal reports and small series, and the number of randomized trials is limited.

#### Adult soft tissue sarcomas

The prognosis of patients with unresectable or metastatic soft tissue sarcomas is poor, with a median survival of approximately 1 year and less than a 10% 5-year survival. (5) In general, dose-intensive doxorubicin and ifosfamide-based regimens have yielded higher response rates and prolonged disease-free survival but not overall survival (OS). (5) However, as it was shown that patients who achieved complete remission (CR) had longer survival; several Phase I and II trials using autologous HSCT were conducted in the 1990s in an attempt to improve outcomes. (5) These trials were composed of small numbers of patients (ranging from 2–55), yielding overall response rates from 20–65%, with CR from 10–43%. The longest reported 5-year progression-free survival (PFS) rate was 21%, and 5-year OS was 32%. (5) One study of 21 patients with soft tissue sarcoma showed a PFS and OS benefit only in patients with no evidence of disease before undergoing HSCT. (6) The data from these small trials are insufficient to support the use of autologous HSCT in adult patients with soft tissue sarcoma. In 1 additional Phase II study, 21 of 55 (38%) patients responded to doxorubicin-based induction chemotherapy (14% vs. 3%;  $p=0.003$ ), but estimated OS was not statistically different between those who received an autologous SCT and those who did not. The authors felt that their results warranted a Phase III trial examining the role of HSCT as consolidation therapy in these patients. (7) No Phase III trials involving HSCT for first-line therapy of advanced or metastatic adult soft tissue sarcoma compared to conventional standard-dose chemotherapy were found in a systematic review. (8)

Kasper and colleagues reported the results of a prospective, single institution Phase 2 study that enrolled 34 patients with advanced and/or metastatic soft tissue sarcoma. (9) After 4 courses of chemotherapy, patients with at least a partial response underwent high-dose chemotherapy and autologous HSCT ( $n=9$ ). All other patients continued chemotherapy for 2 more cycles. The median

PFS for patients treated with HSCT was 11.6 months (range 8-15 months) versus 5.6 months for patients treated with standard chemotherapy ( $p=0.047$ ) and median OS for the 2 groups was 23.7 months (range 12-34 months) versus 10.8 months (range 0-39 months) ( $p=0.027$ ), respectively. The improved PFS and OS observed in the HSCT group probably reflected chemoresponse; however, this would need to be addressed in a randomized study.

### Small-cell lung carcinoma

The interest in treating small-cell lung carcinoma (SCLC) with HSCT stems from the extremely high chemosensitivity and poor prognosis of this tumor type. A Phase III trial of 318 patients with SCLC randomly assigned patients to standard chemotherapy or HSCT. (10) No statistically significant difference in response rates was seen between the 2 groups (80% response rate in the standard arm vs. 88% in the HSCT group [difference: 8%, 95% confidence interval (CI): -1% to 17%;  $p=0.09$ ]). There was no statistically significant difference in OS between the 2 groups, with a median OS of 13.9 months in the standard arm (95% CI: 12.1 to 15.7 months) versus 14.4 months in the HSCT arm (95% CI: 13.1 to 15.4);  $p=0.76$ . One smaller, randomized study and several single-arm studies of HSCT and autologous HSCT for SCLC are summarized in a review article. (11) Overall, the majority of the data from these studies, including the randomized study, showed no increased OS with autologous HSCT.

Jiang and colleagues performed a meta-analysis of the medical literature through October 2008 of English language studies using intensified chemotherapy with autologous hematopoietic progenitors to treat SCLC. (12) The meta-analysis consisted of 5 randomized, controlled trials (RCTs; 3 were Phase III trials and 2 were Phase II), for a total of 641 patients. They found no significant increase in the odds ratio for response rate with autologous transplant versus control chemotherapy (odds ratio [OR]: 1.29; 95% CI: 0.87–1.93;  $p=0.206$ ). No statistically significant increase in OS was seen among the autologous transplant patients compared to control regimens (hazard ratio [HR]: 0.94; 95% CI: 0.80–1.10;  $p=0.432$ ). The authors concluded that current evidence does not support the use of intensified chemotherapy and autologous HSCT for treating SCLC.

### Miscellaneous

Uncontrolled pilot studies of HSCT for patients with refractory urothelial carcinoma (13) and recurrent or advanced nasopharyngeal carcinoma (14) failed to provide adequate evidence of improved outcomes to alter previous conclusions.

A review article summarizes the data from studies of autologous HSCT for solid tumors in adults. (15)

### **Allogeneic HSCT in Solid Tumors of Adults**

Single-case reports and small series of patients with various types of solid tumors have been treated with allogeneic HSCT, including some of the tumor types addressed in this policy. (1,2,16)

### Renal cell carcinoma

Metastatic renal cell carcinoma (RCC) has an extremely poor prognosis, with a median survival of less than 1 year and a 5-year survival of less than 5%. (17) RCC is relatively resistant to chemotherapy but is susceptible to immune therapy, and interleukin-2 (IL-2) and/or interferon alpha have induced responses and long-term PFS in 4–15% of patients. (16) Therefore, the immune-based strategy of a graft-versus-tumor effect possible with an allogeneic transplant has led to an interest in its use in RCC. In 2000, Childs and coworkers published the first series of patients with RCC treated with nonmyeloablative allogeneic HSCT. (17) The investigators showed regression of the tumor in 10 of 19 (53%) patients with cytokine-refractory, metastatic RCC who received an HLA-identical sibling allogeneic HSCT. Three patients had a CR and remained in remission 16, 25, and 27 months after transplant. Four of 7 patients with a partial response were alive without disease progression 9 to 19 months after transplantation. Other pilot trials have demonstrated the graft-versus-tumor effect of allogeneic transplant in metastatic RCC, but most have not shown as high a response rate as the

Childs' et al. study. Overall response rates in these pilot trials have been approximately 25%, with CR rates of approximately 8%. (1) Prospective, randomized trials are needed to assess the net impact of this technique on the survival of patients with cytokine-refractory RCC. (1)

Bregni and colleagues assessed the long-term benefit of allografting in 25 patients with cytokine-refractory metastatic RCC who received an RIC allograft from a sibling who is human leukocyte antigen (HLA) identical. (18) All patients received the same conditioning regimens. Response to allograft was available in 24 patients, with a CR in 1 patient and partial response in 4 patients. Twelve patients had minor response or stable disease, and 7 reported progressive disease. Overall response rate (complete plus partial) was 20%. Six patients died because of transplant-related mortality. Median survival was 336 days (12–2,332+). One-year OS was 48% (95% CI: 28–68), and 5-year OS was 20% (95% CI: 4–36). The authors concluded that allografting is able to induce long-term disease control in a small fraction of cytokine-resistant patients with RCC but that with the availability of novel targeted therapies for RCC, future treatment strategies should consider the incorporation of these therapies into the transplant regimen.

### Colorectal carcinoma

Aglietta and colleagues reported their experience with 39 patients with metastatic colorectal cancer who underwent reduced-intensity conditioning (RIC) allogeneic HSCT between 1999 and 2004 at 9 European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT) centers. (19) Patients were treated with 1 of 5 different RIC regimens. Endpoints that were assessed were achievement of mixed chimerism, incidence of graft-versus-host disease (GVH), treatment-related mortality and toxicities, OS, and time to treatment failure (in patients who responded to the therapy). Patient population characteristics were heterogeneous; pretransplant disease status was partial response in 2 patients, stable disease in 6 patients, and progressive disease in 31. Thirty-eight patients (97%) had been previously treated, some with only chemotherapy and others with surgery and/or chemotherapy. After transplant, tumor responses were complete in 2% of patients, partial in 18%, and 26% of patients had stable disease, for overall disease control in 46% of patients. Transplant-related mortality was 10%. Median overall follow-up was 202 days (range: 6–1,020 days), after which time 33 patients had died and 6 were still alive. Tumor progression was the cause of death in 74% of patients. A comparison of OS of patients was performed after stratifying by some potential prognostic factors. Achievement of response after transplantation was associated with a difference in OS, with the 18 patients who had a response having a median OS of approximately 400 days versus approximately 120 days for those who had no response ( $p=0.00018$ ). The authors concluded that the HSCT approach should probably be reserved for patients with a partial response or stable disease after second-line therapy for metastatic colorectal cancer and that second-generation clinical trials in these patients are warranted.

### Pancreatic cancer

Kanda and colleagues reported on the efficacy of RIC allogeneic HSCT against advanced pancreatic cancer in 22 patients from 3 transplantation centers in Japan. (20) The RIC regimens differed among the centers, and the patient population was fairly heterogeneous, with 15 patients having metastatic disease and 7 locally advanced disease. All but 1 patient received chemotherapy of various combinations before transplant, and 10 patients received local radiation. After HSCT, 1 patient achieved complete response, 2 patients had partial response, 2 had minor response, and 8 had stable disease, with an overall response rate of 23%. Median survival was 139 days, and the major cause of death was tumor progression (median duration of survival in advanced pancreatic cancer in the nontransplant setting is less than 6 months, even in patients treated with gemcitabine). Only 1 patient survived longer than 1 year after transplantation. The authors concluded that a tumor response was observed in one fourth of patients with advanced pancreatic cancer who underwent HSCT and that the response was not durable. However, they felt that their observation of a relationship between longer survival and the infusion of a higher number of CD34-positive cells or the development of chronic graft-versus-host disease (GVHD) warrant future studies to enhance the immunologic effect against pancreatic cancer. Abe and colleagues reported the outcomes for 5 patients with chemotherapy-resistant, unresectable pancreatic adenocarcinoma who received a nonmyeloablative allogeneic

peripheral blood HSCT. (21) The conditioning regimen consisted of fludarabine and low-dose total-body irradiation. The median patient age was 54 years (range: 44–62 years). All patients had advanced disease, either with metastases or peritonitis, and had received at least 1 course of chemotherapy including gemcitabine. After HSCT, tumor response was only observed in 2 patients—1 had complete disappearance of the primary tumor and 1 had a 20% reduction in tumor size; the remaining patients had progressive disease (n=2) or stable disease (n=1). Four patients died of progressive disease, ranging from post-transplant day 28 to day 209 (median: 96 days). One patient died at day 57 secondary to rupture of the common bile duct from rapid tumor regression. The authors concluded that their study showed a graft-versus-tumor effect but that in order to obtain durable responses, an improved conditioning regimen and new strategies to control tumor growth after nonmyeloablative allogeneic HSCT are needed.

### Nasopharyngeal carcinoma

Toh and colleagues reported the outcomes of a Phase 2 trial of 21 patients with pretreated metastatic nasopharyngeal carcinoma. (22) Median patient age was 48 years (range: 34-57 years), and patients had received a median of 2 previous chemotherapy regimens (range; 1-8). All patients had extensive metastases. Patients underwent a nonmyeloablative allogeneic HSCT with sibling allografts. Seven patients (33%) showed a partial response and 3 (14%) achieved stable disease. Four patients were alive at 2 years, and 3 showed prolonged disease control of 344, 525, and 550 days. After a median follow-up of 209 days (range: 4-1,147 days), the median PFS was 100 days (95% CI: 66-128 days), and median OS was 209 days (95% CI: 128-236 days). One- and 2-year OS rates were 29% and 19%, respectively, comparable to the median 7-14 months OS for metastatic nasopharyngeal patients in the literature treated with salvage chemotherapy without HSCT.

### **Ongoing Clinical Trials**

A September 2013 search of the online site Clinicaltrials.gov showed a Phase III trial of sequential, high-dose chemotherapy followed by peripheral stem-cell or bone marrow transplant compared with chemotherapy alone in treating patients with SCLC (NCT00011921); the recruitment status is unknown. No additional ongoing Phase III clinical trials of chemotherapy followed by HSCT in treating adults with miscellaneous solid tumors listed in this policy were identified.

### **Summary**

Hematopoietic stem-cell transplantation (HSCT) is an established treatment for certain hematologic malignancies. The use of autologous HSCT in solid tumors in adults continues to be largely experimental, as most studies have failed to show an improvement in health outcomes. Interest continues in exploring non-myeloablative allogeneic HSCT for a graft-versus-tumor effect of donor-derived T cells in metastatic solid tumors.

In summary, as of September 2013, no trials have been published that would alter the current policy statement; this is considered investigational.

### **Practice Guidelines and Position Statements**

National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) Guidelines

As of September 2013, National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) guidelines on the tumors addressed in this policy do not indicate HSCT as a treatment option. (23)

### References

1. Imanguli MM, Childs RW. Hematopoietic stem cell transplantation for solid tumors. Update Cancer Ther 2006; 1(3):343-52.
2. Carnevale-Schianca F, Ricciardi A, Capaldi A et al. Allogeneic hemopoietic stem cell transplantation in solid tumors. Transplant Proc 2005; 37(6):2664-6.

3. Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association Technology Evaluation Center (TEC). High-dose chemotherapy with autologous stem-cell support for miscellaneous solid tumors in adults. TEC Assessments 1995; Volume 10, Tab 4.
4. Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association Technology Evaluation Center (TEC). Salvage HDC/AlloSCS for relapse following HDC/AuSCS for non-lymphoid solid tumors. TEC Assessments 1999; Volume 14, Tab 11.
5. Pedrazzoli P, Ledermann JA, Lotz JP et al. High dose chemotherapy with autologous hematopoietic stem cell support for solid tumors other than breast cancer in adults. *Ann Oncol* 2006; 17(10):1479- 88.
6. Kasper B, Dietrich S, Mechttersheimer G et al. Large institutional experience with dose-intensive chemotherapy and stem cell support in the management of sarcoma patients. *Oncology* 2007; 73(1- 2):58-64.
7. Schlemmer M, Wendtner CM, Falk M et al. Efficacy of consolidation high-dose chemotherapy with ifosfamide, carboplatin and etoposide (HD-ICE) followed by autologous peripheral blood stem cell rescue in chemosensitive patients with metastatic soft tissue sarcomas. *Oncology* 2006; 71(1- 2):32- 9.
8. Verma S, Younus J, Stys-Norman D et al. Dose-intensive chemotherapy with growth factor or autologous bone marrow/stem cell transplant support in first-line treatment of advanced or metastatic adult soft tissue sarcoma: a systematic review. *Cancer* 2008; 112(6):1197-205.
9. Kasper B, Scharrenbroich I, Schmitt T et al. Consolidation with high-dose chemotherapy and stem cell support for responding patients with metastatic soft tissue sarcomas: prospective, single-institutional phase II study. *Bone Marrow Transplant* 2010; 45(7):1234-8.
10. Lorigan P, Woll PJ, O'Brien ME et al. Randomized phase III trial of dose-dense chemotherapy supported by whole-blood hematopoietic progenitors in better-prognosis small-cell lung cancer. *J Natl Cancer Inst* 2005; 97(9):666-74.
11. Crivellari G, Monfardini S, Stragliotto S et al. Increasing chemotherapy in small-cell lung cancer: from dose intensity and density to megadoses. *Oncologist* 2007; 112(1):79-89.
12. Jiang J, Shi HZ, Deng JM et al. Efficacy of intensified chemotherapy with hematopoietic progenitors in small-cell lung cancer: a meta-analysis of the published literature. *Lung Cancer* 2009; 65(2):214-8.
13. Nishimura M, Nasu K, Ohta H et al. High dose chemotherapy for refractory urothelial carcinoma supported by peripheral blood stem cell transplantation. *Cancer* 1999; 86(9):1827-31.
14. Airoidi M, De Crescenzo A, Pedani F et al. Feasibility and long-term results of autologous PBSC transplantation in recurrent undifferentiated nasopharyngeal carcinoma. *Head Neck* 2001; 23(9):799- 803.
15. Pedrazzoli P, Rosti G, Secondino S et al. High-dose chemotherapy with autologous hematopoietic stem cell support for solid tumors in adults. *Semin Hematol* 2007; 44(4):286-95.
16. Demirer T, Barkholt L, Blaise D et al. Transplantation of allogeneic hematopoietic stem cells: an emerging treatment modality for solid tumors. *Nat Clin Pract Oncol* 2008; 5(5):256-67.
17. Childs R, Chernoff A, Contentin N et al. Regression of metastatic renal cell carcinoma after nonmyeloablative allogeneic peripheral blood stem cell transplantation. *N Engl J Med* 2000; 343(11):750-8.
18. Bregni M, Bernardi M, Servida P et al. Long-term follow-up of metastatic renal cancer patients undergoing reduced-intensity allografting. *Bone Marrow Transplant* 2009; 44(4):237-42.
19. Aglietta M, Barkholt L, Schianca FC et al. Reduced-intensity allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation in metastatic colorectal cancer as a novel adaptive cell therapy approach. The European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation experience. *Biol Blood Marrow Transplant* 2009; 15(3):326-35.
20. Kanda Y, Omuro Y, Baba E et al. Allo-SCT using reduced-intensity conditioning against advanced pancreatic cancer: a Japanese survey. *Bone Marrow Transplant* 2008; 42(2):99-103.
21. Abe Y, Ito T, Baba E et al. Nonmyeloablative allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation as immunotherapy for pancreatic cancer. *Pancreas* 2009; 38(7):815-9.

22. Toh HC, Chia WK, Sun L et al. Graft-vs-tumor effect in patients with advanced nasopharyngeal cancer treated with nonmyeloablative allogeneic PBSC transplantation. Bone Marrow Transplant 2011; 46(4):573-9.
23. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology. 2013. Available online at: [http://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/f\\_guidelines.asp](http://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/f_guidelines.asp)

### **Billing Coding/Physician Documentation Information**

---

- 38204** Management of recipient hematopoietic progenitor cell donor search and cell acquisition
- 38205** Blood-derived hematopoietic progenitor cell harvesting for transplantation, per collection; allogeneic
- 38206** Blood-derived hematopoietic progenitor cell harvesting for transplantation, per collection; autologous
- 38208** Transplant preparation of hematopoietic progenitor cells; thawing of previously frozen harvest, without washing
- 38209** Transplant preparation of hematopoietic progenitor cells; thawing of previously frozen harvest, with washing
- 38210** Transplant preparation of hematopoietic progenitor cells; specific cell depletion within harvest, T-cell depletion
- 38211** Transplant preparation of hematopoietic progenitor cells; tumor cell depletion
- 38212** Transplant preparation of hematopoietic progenitor cells; red blood cell removal
- 38213** Transplant preparation of hematopoietic progenitor cells; platelet depletion
- 38214** Transplant preparation of hematopoietic progenitor cells; plasma (volume) depletion
- 38215** Transplant preparation of hematopoietic progenitor cells; cell concentration in plasma, mononuclear, or buffy coat layer
- 38220** Bone marrow; aspiration only
- 38221** Bone marrow; biopsy, needle or trocar
- 38240** Bone marrow transplantation; allogeneic
- 38241** Bone marrow transplantation; autologous
- 38242** Bone marrow or blood-derived peripheral stem cell transplantation; allogeneic donor lymphocyte Infusions
- Q0083** Chemotherapy administration by other than infusion technique only (e.g., subcutaneous, intramuscular, push), per visit
- Q0084** Chemotherapy administration by infusion technique only, per visit
- Q0085** Chemotherapy administration by both infusion technique and other technique(s) (e.g., subcutaneous, intramuscular, push), per visit
- S2140** Cord blood harvesting for transplantation, allogeneic
- S2142** Cord blood-derived stem cell transplantation, allogeneic
- S2150** Bone marrow or blood-derived peripheral stem cell harvesting and transplantation, allogeneic or autologous, including pheresis, high-dose chemotherapy, and 28 days of post-transplant care (including drugs; hospitalization; medical surgical, diagnosis and emergency services)

### **Additional Policy Key Words**

---

N/A

### **Policy Implementation/Update Information**

---

- 9/1/02 New policy added to the Surgery and Transplant sections.
- 9/1/03 No policy statement changes.
- 9/1/04 Policy statement revised to include malignant melanoma to the list of investigational indications.
- 9/1/05 No policy statement changes.
- 9/1/06 No policy statement changes.
- 9/1/07 No policy statement changes.
- 9/1/08 No policy statement changes.
- 9/1/09 Policy statement revised to add allogeneic stem-cell transplant as investigational. High-

	dose chemotherapy” removed from title and policy statement.
9/1/10	No policy statement changes.
9/1/11	No policy statement changes.
9/1/12	No policy statement changes.
11/1/12	No policy statement changes.
12/1/13	No policy statement changes.

---

State and Federal mandates and health plan contract language, including specific provisions/exclusions, take precedence over Medical Policy and must be considered first in determining eligibility for coverage. The medical policies contained herein are for informational purposes. The medical policies do not constitute medical advice or medical care. Treating health care providers are independent contractors and are neither employees nor agents Blue KC and are solely responsible for diagnosis, treatment and medical advice. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, photocopying, or otherwise, without permission from Blue KC.