Sleep studies, outpatient facility or clinic-based setting

Blue Care Network provides coverage for attended sleep studies in the outpatient treatment setting for adult members with symptoms of obstructive sleep apnea who either completed a nondiagnostic home sleep study or who have comorbid conditions as supported by evidence from the member’s medical record that preclude them from being a candidate for a home sleep study. Providers can expedite the clinical review request by completing the questionnaire on e-referral. If all questions are answered, e-referral either approves or pends the case. If the case pends and BCN cannot authorize it, BCN contacts the provider for additional clinical information.

Only providers who have signed a specific sleep testing agreement may provide services to BCN members. Hospitals billing for services related to home sleep studies must also execute a specific sleep testing agreement.

Find a contracted provider using the online provider search at bcbsm.com/find-a-doctor. Type “home sleep testing” in the “Search for people or places” field. For more detailed instructions, refer to the document Finding home sleep study providers.

Note: In addition to the providers listed in the search results, Night Hawk Sleep Systems, Inc., provides home sleep study services for BCN members throughout the state of Michigan. Providers can contact Night Hawk at 1-877-622-2022.


*CPT codes, descriptions and two-digit numeric modifiers only are copyright 2015 American Medical Association. All rights reserved.

See below for the questions you’ll encounter for this procedure in BCN’s e-referral system.

You must answer each question by choosing either Yes, No, Not Applicable or another appropriate option.

Sleep Studies – Outpatient Facility or Clinic-Based Setting

Answering the question(s) below will provide additional information needed to process your request.

Possible answers:

☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ NA

(continued on next page)
See below for the questions you'll encounter for this procedure in BCN's e-referral system. (continued)

You must answer each question by choosing either Yes, No, Not Applicable or another appropriate option.

Sleep Studies – Outpatient Facility or Clinic-Based Setting

Answering the question(s) below will provide additional information needed to process your request.

Did this patient have a previous home sleep and if so, what were the results? If so, after completing and submitting this questionnaire and still inside the e-Referral system, please attach the results of the previous home sleep study.

Possible answers:

- No home sleep study
- Home sleep study was NON-Diagnostic
- Home sleep study was DIAGNOSTIC

Is excessive daytime sleepiness present noted by Epworth Sleepiness Scale greater than 10 OR sleepiness interfering with daily activities NOT explained by other conditions?

Possible answers:

- Yes
- No
- NA

Does the patient snore habitually or have gasping or choking episodes that wake them up?

Possible answers:

- Yes
- No
- NA

Does the patient have treatment resistant (persistent) high blood pressure in a patient taking three or more blood pressure medications?

Possible answers:

- Yes
- No
- NA

(continued on next page)
See below for the questions you’ll encounter for this procedure in BCN’s e-referral system. (continued)

You must answer each question by choosing either Yes, No, Not Applicable or another appropriate option.

**Sleep Studies – Outpatient Facility or Clinic-Based Setting**
*Answering the question(s) below will provide additional information needed to process your request.*

- **Q** Does the patient have obesity which is a body mass index greater than 35 or a neck circumference greater than 17 inches for a male or greater than 16 inches for a female?
  - Possible answers: □ Yes □ No □ NA

- **Q** Does the patient have soft tissue abnormalities of the upper airway, head, skull or face?
  - Possible answers: □ Yes □ No □ NA

- **Q** Has anyone observed apnea (pauses in breathing) during sleep?
  - Possible answers: □ Yes □ No □ NA
Sleep study, outpatient facility or clinic-based setting

See below for the questions you’ll encounter for this procedure in BCN's e-referral system. (continued)

You must answer each question by choosing either Yes, No, Not Applicable or another appropriate option.

**Sleep Studies – Outpatient Facility or Clinic-Based Setting**

*Answering the question(s) below will provide additional information needed to process your request.*

Does the patient have a confirmed diagnosis of or suspicion of a condition which is an exclusion or contraindication to having a home sleep study? If so, please identify the condition from the following list A thru M.

A. Moderate to severe congested heart failure defined by a New York Heart Association (NYHA) class III or IV.
B. Moderate to severe pulmonary disease defined by EITHER pulmonary function test results for arterial blood gas showing PO2 < 60 or PCO2 > 45; OR confirmed pulmonary congestion (fluid in the lungs); OR left ventricular ejection fraction < 45%.
C. Central sleep disorder where the effort to breath is diminished or absent for 10 seconds or longer.
D. Narcolepsy.
E. Periodic arm or leg movements during sleep.
F. Obesity hypoventilation syndrome which is a breathing disorder where poor breathing results in too much carbon dioxide (hypoventilation) and too little oxygen in the blood (hypoxemia).
G. Morbid obesity defined as a body mass index (BMI) greater than 40 kg/m2 or the patient is 100 pounds over the ideal body weight for their height.
H. A neuromuscular disease such as Parkinson’s, myotonic dystrophy or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).
I. Epilepsy.
J. REM behavior disorder where the patient acts out their dreams such as by sleep talking, screaming, arm or leg movement, or sleep walking.
K. Another parasomnia (disruptive sleep disorder that involves undesirable physical, behavioral or emotional experiences while falling asleep) not listed above that would be a contraindication for a home sleep study.
L. Inability to use the test equipment in the home.
M. A critical illness that would prevent them from using the equipment in the home.

Note: If any of the above are selected, after completing and submitting this questionnaire and while still inside the e-Referral system, please attach information from the patient’s medical record up in the Case Communication field that shows evidence of this condition, previous sleep study results, BMI, pulmonary function test results, arterial blood gas lab results.

(continued on next page)
See below for the questions you’ll encounter for this procedure in BCN’s e-referral system. (continued)

You must answer each question by choosing either Yes, No, Not Applicable or another appropriate option.

A. To initiate, titrate or re-evaluate CPAP for a patient with an apnea hypopnea index (AHI) of at least 15 per hour OR an AHI of at least 5 per hour with excessive daytime sleepiness or unexplained high blood pressure **

B. Following surgery to determine if the surgery was effective **

C. To assess the efficacy of a dental appliance on sleep **

D. Due to equipment failure or less than six hours of recording or sleep **

E. To reevaluate the diagnosis of obstructive sleep apnea and need for continued CPAP. For example, if there is a significant change in weight or change in symptoms suggesting that CPAP should be retitrated or possibly discontinued **

F. None of the above conditions apply to this patient.

**Note: This statement doesn’t imply that supervised studies are needed routinely following unattended studies. This statement means a re-evaluation based on a substantial change in symptoms or in the clinical situation. Note: If any of the above are selected, after completing and submitting this questionnaire and while still inside the e-Referral system, please attach information from the patient’s medical record up in the Case Communication field that shows evidence of this condition, previous sleep study results, BMI, pulmonary function test results, arterial blood gas lab results.

References

- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network medical policy titled *Sleep Disorders, Diagnosis and Medical Management*
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Decision Memo for Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) Therapy for Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA), (CAG-00098R2)