

**Subject:** Cosmetic and Reconstructive Services of the Head and Neck**Document #:** ANC.00008**Status:** Reviewed**Publish Date:** 04/10/2024**Last Review Date:** 02/15/2024

## Description/Scope

This document describes the cosmetic, reconstructive, and medically necessary uses of a selection of procedures addressing the treatment of abnormalities of the head and neck.

**Note:** Please see the following documents for additional information:

- [ANC.00007 Cosmetic and Reconstructive Services: Skin Related](#)
- [ANC.00009 Cosmetic and Reconstructive Services of the Trunk, Groin, and Extremities](#)
- [CG-OR-PR-04 Cranial Remodeling Bands and Helmets \(Cranial Orthotics\)](#)
- [CG-MED-96 Prefabricated External Infant Ear Molding Systems](#)
- [CG-SURG-03 Blepharoplasty, Blepharoptosis Repair, and Brow Lift](#)
- [SURG.00096 Surgical and Ablative Treatments for Chronic Headaches](#)

**Note:** This document does not address gender affirming surgery or procedures. Criteria for gender affirming surgery or procedures are found in applicable guidelines used by the plan.

**Note:**

- This document does not address septoplasty alone. Please refer to [CG-SURG-18 Septoplasty](#) for additional information.
- This document does not address surgical procedures involving the mandible, maxilla (or both) or genioplasty procedures. Please refer to [CG-SURG-84 Mandibular/Maxillary \(Orthognathic\) Surgery](#) for additional information.

**Note:** The use of botulinum toxin is not addressed in this document.

**Medically Necessary:** In this document, procedures are considered medically necessary if there is a significant functional impairment AND the procedure can be reasonably expected to improve the functional impairment.

**Reconstructive:** In this document, procedures are considered reconstructive when intended to address a significant variation from normal related to accidental injury, disease, trauma, treatment of a disease or congenital defect.

**NOTE:** Not all benefit contracts/certificates include benefits for reconstructive services as defined by this document. Benefit language supersedes this document.

**Cosmetic:** In this document, procedures are considered cosmetic when intended to change a physical appearance that would be considered within normal human anatomic variation. Cosmetic services are often described as those that are primarily intended to preserve or improve appearance.

## Position Statement

### A. Facial Plastic Surgery:

Facial plastic surgery is considered **medically necessary** when required to correct a significant functional impairment **and** the procedure can be reasonably expected to improve the functional impairment. Examples include, but are not limited to, reconstructive procedures which correct or improve a significant functional impairment of speech, nutrition, control of secretions, protection of the airway, or corneal protection.

Facial plastic surgery is considered **reconstructive** when intended to address a significant variation from normal related to accidental injury, disease, trauma, or treatment of a disease or congenital defect.

**Note:** The initial restoration may be completed in stages.

Facial plastic surgery is considered **cosmetic and not medically necessary** when intended to change a physical appearance that would be considered within normal human anatomic variation.

Facial plastic surgery is considered **cosmetic and not medically necessary** when the medically necessary or reconstructive criteria in this section are not met.

### B. Otoplasty

Otoplasty is considered **medically necessary** when performed to surgically correct a physical structure or absence of a physical structure that is causing hearing loss, or intended to facilitate the use of a hearing aid or device when **both** of the following criteria are met:

1. the procedure is reasonably expected to improve the functional impairment; **and**
2. an audiogram documents a loss of at least 15 decibels in the affected ear(s).

Otoplasty is considered **reconstructive** when intended to restore a significantly abnormal external ear or auditory canal related to accidental injury, disease, trauma, or treatment of a disease or congenital defect.

Otoplasty is considered **reconstructive** when intended to restore the absence of the external ear due to accidental injury, disease, trauma, or the treatment of a disease or congenital defect.

Otoplasty is considered **cosmetic and not medically necessary** when intended to change a physical appearance that would be considered within normal human anatomic variation. Examples include, but are not limited to, repair of ear lobes with clefts or other consequences of ear piercing, or protruding ears.

Otoplasty is considered **cosmetic and not medically necessary** when the medically necessary or reconstructive criteria in

this section are not met.

Otoplasty using a custom-fabricated device, including but not limited to a custom fabricated alloplastic implant, is considered **cosmetic and not medically necessary**.

#### C. Rhinophyma

Excision or shaving of the rhinophyma is considered **medically necessary** when **both** of the following criteria are met:

1. the medical record documentation includes evidence of bleeding or infection;**and**
2. the procedure can be reasonably expected to improve functional impairment as a result of bleeding or infection.

Excision or shaving of the rhinophyma is considered **cosmetic and not medically necessary** when the medically necessary criteria in this section are not met.

#### D. Rhinoplasty or Rhinoseptoplasty (procedure which combines both rhinoplasty and septoplasty)

Rhinoplasty is considered **medically necessary** when **both** of the following criteria are met:

1. the medical record documentation includes evidence of the failure of conservative medical therapy for severe airway obstruction from deformities due to disease, structural abnormality, or previous therapeutic process that will not respond to septoplasty alone; **and**
2. the procedure can be reasonably expected to improve the functional impairment.

**Note:** Only the initial restorative repair is medically necessary, unless the procedure is completed in stages with healing periods, then all stages are medically necessary.

**Note:** Rhinoseptoplasty is considered medically necessary when the criteria above for rhinoplasty are met and medically necessary criteria in **CG-SURG-18 Septoplasty** are also met.

Rhinoplasty is considered **reconstructive** if there is documented evidence (that is, radiographs or appropriate imaging studies) of nasal fracture resulting in significant variation from normal without functional impairment. The intent of the surgery is to correct the deformity caused by the nasal fracture.

Rhinoseptoplasty is considered **reconstructive** if there is documented evidence (that is, radiographs or appropriate imaging studies) of nasal and septal fracture resulting in significant variation from normal without functional impairment. The intent of the surgery is to correct the deformity caused by the nasal and septal fracture.

Rhinoplasty or rhinoseptoplasty to modify the shape or size of the nose is considered **cosmetic and not medically necessary** when the medically necessary or reconstructive criteria in this section are not met.

#### E. Rhytidectomy (Face lift)

Rhytidectomy is considered **reconstructive** when intended to address a significant variation from normal related to accidental injury, disease, trauma, treatment of a disease or congenital defect. Examples include, but are not limited to, significant burns or other significant major facial trauma.

Rhytidectomy is considered **cosmetic and not medically necessary** when the reconstructive criteria in this section are not met, including, but not limited to, removal of wrinkles, excess skin, or to tighten facial muscles.

#### F. Cranial Nerve Procedures

Transfers, anastomosis or other procedures of the facial nerve or other cranial nerves or their branches are considered **medically necessary** to correct a significant functional impairment **and** the procedure can be reasonably expected to improve the functional impairment. Examples of cranial nerve procedures to correct a functional impairment include, but are not limited to, procedures to allow for speech, nutrition, control of secretions, protection of the airway, or corneal protection.

Transfers, anastomosis or other procedures of the facial nerve or other cranial nerves or their branches are considered **reconstructive** when intended to address a significant variation from normal related to accidental injury, disease, trauma, treatment of a disease or congenital defect. Examples of significant variation from normal include, but are not limited to, congenital or acquired facial palsy.

Transfers, anastomosis or other procedures of the facial nerve or other cranial nerves or their branches are considered **not medically necessary** when the medically necessary or reconstructive criteria in this section are not met.

#### G. Ear or Body Piercing

Ear or body piercing is considered **cosmetic and not medically necessary** when performed for any reason.

#### H. Frown Lines

Removal of frown lines is considered **cosmetic and not medically necessary** when performed for any reason, including, but not limited to, the excision or correction of glabella frown lines or forehead lift (cosmetic foreheadplasty).

#### I. Neck Tuck (Submental Lipectomy)

Neck tucks are considered **cosmetic and not medically necessary** when performed for any reason.

## Rationale

### *Concepts of Medical Necessity, Reconstructive and Cosmetic*

The coverage eligibility of medical and surgical therapies to treat head and neck abnormalities is often based on a determination of whether the abnormality is considered medically necessary, reconstructive or cosmetic in nature. In many instances the concept of reconstructive overlaps with the concept of medical necessity. For example, services intended to correct a significant functional impairment as a result of trauma will be considered medically necessary and thus eligible for coverage, regardless of the contract language pertaining to reconstructive services, unless some other exclusion applies. Generally, reconstructive is often taken to mean that the service "returns the person to whole" as a result of a congenital anomaly, disease or other condition including post trauma or post therapy, while cosmetic generally describes improving a physical appearance that would be considered within normal human anatomic variation. Categories of conditions without associated functional impairment that may be included as reconstructive definitions, include or may be due to the following: a) surgery, b) accidental trauma or injury, c) diseases, d) congenital anomalies, e)

severe anatomic variants, and f) chemotherapy.

## Background/Overview

Facial plastic surgery is a general term for any surgery performed for the purpose of altering the appearance of the face. Facial plastic surgery may be considered cosmetic or may be considered medically necessary in those instances where severe abnormalities result in functional impairments that affect speech, nutrition, control of secretions, protection of the airway, or corneal protection.

Reconstructive surgery to the midface, orbital rims or the forehead may require augmentation or reduction, osteotomy, bone or cartilage grafting, or a combination of these procedures. These procedures may also be reasonable to correct or restore appearance following traumatic injuries or a previous surgery done to treat a medical or surgical condition that resulted in anatomical changes.

Other procedures are not done to correct a functional impairment. Surgery for frown lines is intended to remove wrinkles that result from the aging process. A "neck tuck", also known as a neck lift, lower rhytidectomy or submental lipectomy, is a surgical procedure to remove excess skin and fat from the neck area under the chin. This area may also be referred to as a double chin. These surgeries are not reconstructive in nature but are performed for cosmetic purposes.

Osteotomy and osteoplasty are surgical procedures which involve the opening of a bone (osteotomy), or the reconfiguration of a bone (osteoplasty). Such procedures are required when the alignment of a bony structure is misaligned to such a degree that it results in functional impairment. These surgeries are usually complex and may involve several procedures or stages to accomplish the desired result.

Otoplasty refers to surgical procedures intended to reshape the structure of a misshapen or injured outer ear, or to construct an ear that is incompletely formed (microtia), small, or absent (anotia) at birth, or has been deformed as a result of trauma. Atresia refers to a more severe condition in which the individual lacks an external auditory canal. Microtia and anotia may be found in congenital conditions affecting development of the first and second branchial arches, such as Goldenhar syndrome, hemifacial microsomia, and Treacher-Collins syndrome. They can also be associated with congenital malformations of the face, limbs, heart, or kidneys, or with maternal exposure to teratogens.

Otoplasty is considered reconstructive when it is intended to address a significant variation from normal related to accidental injury, disease, trauma, treatment of a disease or congenital defect. When no reconstructive indication is present, otoplasty is considered cosmetic if there is no functional impairment.

The structural framework used to develop the reconstructed ear is made using costal cartilage or an alternative device, commonly a biocompatible porous polyethylene implant. Costal reconstruction is a four-stage procedure using a second surgical site, typically a rib, to harvest autologous material. While costal reconstruction is more complex and invasive, it is considered more durable, with a lower infection rate and a good cosmetic result. Alloplastic devices are less invasive and can be used in situations where costal harvesting cannot be performed, but they are associated with a higher rate of extrusion and infection (Siegert, 2019). For both techniques, a template is created based on radiographs of the normal ear, or of a family member's ear in the case of bilateral microtia. A prefabricated device is typically comprised of 2 pieces, which are then trimmed and custom fitted to size using the template and assembled using sutures or welds (Constantine, 2014). Alternatively, custom fabricated implants are typically a 1-piece implant created using 3D imaging.

Rhinophyma is a condition where the nose becomes enlarged, red in color, and bulbous. The cause of rhinophyma is unknown but has been associated with rosacea, a chronic skin rash that is characterized by reddening of the skin on the face. Because this condition results in numerous pits and fissures in the skin, bleeding and infection may develop indicating the need for further medical treatment. In all other circumstances, treatment of rhinophyma is considered cosmetic in nature.

Rhinoplasty, septoplasty, and rhinoseptoplasty (or septorhinoplasty) are procedures that involve distinct surgical techniques. When rhinoplasty is performed to alter the shape (contour) or enhance the external appearance of the nose (that is, a "nose job"), the procedure has no medical benefit and is considered cosmetic and not medically necessary. Rhinoplasty may be performed to alter the shape of the nose to improve the passage of air while breathing (from blocked nasal passages or severe nasal obstruction), or to correct structural damage due to disease or trauma (for example, to repair a nasal fracture) *without* involvement of the underlying nasal septa. Rhinoplasty is medically indicated when these conditions exist. Septoplasty, usually performed under local or general anesthesia, is a surgical procedure to correct nasal septum defects or deformities by alteration, splinting, or partial removal of obstructing structures (Note: The indications for septoplasty alone are not addressed in this document). Septoplasty is an internal procedure which does not affect the outward appearance of the nose, is usually performed to improve breathing, but may also be performed to assist in the management of polyps, tumors or epistaxis. Rhinoseptoplasty, involving both rhinoplasty and septoplasty, is a more extensive surgical procedure combining repairs to the external nasal pyramid or skeleton with repairs of the nasal septa to correct a functional impairment involving both structures. Rhinoseptoplasty may also be performed as a reconstructive procedure to correct a nasal and septal fracture resulting in significant variation from normal without functional impairment. The intent of the surgery is to correct the deformity caused by the nasal and septal fracture.

A rhytidectomy or "face lift" is a surgical procedure where excess skin is removed from the face and the facial muscles are tightened. This procedure may correct a facial abnormality due to burns or facial palsy resulting in a droopy appearance. In addition, face lifts are used to create a more youthful appearance in individuals concerned with changes due to the aging process. In individuals with facial injuries due to burns or lax facial muscles due to palsy, the use of rhytidectomy may allow the restoration of a normal appearance. Rhytidectomy is considered a cosmetic procedure for individuals with no functional impairment, disease, or injury-related facial changes.

Nerve anastomosis or grafting, decompression, and peripheral neuroplasty are examples of surgical procedures performed to correct functional impairment that may result from cranial and facial nerve pathology, injury or dysfunction. These procedures are expected to improve the individual's functions involving speech, nutrition, control of secretions, corneal protection, or airway protection. These reconstructive surgical procedures are also performed to address an individual's significantly altered appearance in the treatment of congenital or acquired facial palsy.

Ear and body piercing is done for cosmetic or aesthetic reasons. Piercing the ears, nose, lip, or any other body part has no acceptable medical use and therefore is not considered medically necessary.

## Definitions

**Osteotomy/Osteoplasty:** A surgical procedure that involves the opening of a bone (osteotomy), or to reconfigure a bone (osteoplasty).

**Otoplasty:** A surgical procedure to reshape or rebuild the ear.

**Palsy:** A condition affecting the nerves that results in the inability of voluntary movement (motor function) or paralysis, generally partial, of a body area.

**Rhinophyma:** A condition of the face consisting of a bulbous, enlarged, red nose and puffy cheeks. There may also be thick bumps on the lower half of the nose and the nearby cheek areas.

**Rhinoplasty:** A surgical procedure intended to reshape the nose or repair a broken nose.

**Rhinoseptoplasty:** A surgical procedure, also referred to as a septorhinoplasty, performed on the nose and the nasal septum (cartilage and bony structure that separates the two nostrils).

**Rhytidectomy:** A surgical procedure intended to adjust the appearance of the face by removing excess skin and tightening the underlying muscles.

**Septoplasty:** A surgical procedure intended to repair the nasal septum.

**Submental lipectomy:** A surgical procedure, also referred to as a neck tuck, intended to remove excess fat and skin ("double chin") from the neck below the chin.

## Coding

*The following codes for treatments and procedures applicable to this document are included below for informational purposes. Inclusion or exclusion of a procedure, diagnosis or device code(s) does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement policy. Please refer to the member's contract benefits in effect at the time of service to determine coverage or non-coverage of these services as it applies to an individual member.*

### A. Facial Plastic Surgery

#### When services may be Medically Necessary or Reconstructive when criteria are met:

##### CPT

21083	Impression and custom preparation; palatal lift prosthesis
21087	Impression and custom preparation; nasal prosthesis
21137-21139	Reduction forehead [includes codes 21137, 21138, 21139]
21159-21160	Reconstruction midface, LeFort III (extra and intracranial) with forehead advancement (eg, mono bloc), requiring bone grafts (includes obtaining autografts)
21172	Reconstruction superior-lateral orbital rim and lower forehead, advancement or alteration, with or without grafts (includes obtaining autografts); without LeFort I
21175	Reconstruction, bifrontal, superiorlateral orbital rims and lower forehead, advancement or alteration (eg, plagiocephaly, trigonocephaly, brachycephaly), with or without grafts (includes obtaining autografts)
21179-21180	Reconstruction, entire or majority of forehead and/or supraorbital rims
21182-21184	Reconstruction of orbital walls, rims, forehead, nasoeethmoid complex following intra-and extracranial excision of benign tumor of cranial bone (eg, fibrous dysplasia), with multiple autografts (includes obtaining grafts) [includes codes 21182, 21183, 21184]
21210	Graft, bone; nasal; maxillary or malar areas (includes obtaining grafts)
21230	Graft; rib cartilage, autogenous, to face, chin, nose or ear (includes obtaining graft)
21235	Graft; ear cartilage, autogenous, to nose or ear (includes obtaining graft)
21255	Reconstruction zygomatic arch and glenoid fossa with bone and cartilage (includes obtaining autografts)
21256	Reconstruction of orbit with osteotomies (extracranial) and with bone grafts (includes obtaining autografts) (eg, microphthalmia)
21270	Malar augmentation, prosthetic material
21275	Secondary revision of orbitocraniofacial reconstruction

##### ICD-10 Procedure

0NU107Z-0NU10KZ	Supplement frontal bone, open approach; [with autologous tissue, synthetic or nonautologous tissue substitute; includes codes 0NU107Z, 0NU10JZ, 0NU10KZ]
0NUM07Z-0NUN0KZ	Supplement zygomatic bone, open approach; [right or left with autologous tissue, synthetic or nonautologous tissue substitute; includes codes 0NUM07Z, 0NUM0JZ, 0NUM0KZ, 0NUN07Z, 0NUN0JZ, 0NUN0KZ]
0NUP07Z-0NUQ0KZ	Supplement orbit, open approach [right or left with autologous tissue, synthetic or nonautologous tissue substitute; includes codes 0NUP07Z, 0NUP0JZ, 0NUP0KZ, 0NUQ07Z, 0NUQ0JZ, 0NUQ0KZ]
0WU207Z-0WU20KZ	Supplement face, open approach [with autologous tissue, synthetic or nonautologous tissue substitute; includes codes 0WU207Z, 0WU20JZ, 0WU20KZ]

##### ICD-10 Diagnosis

All diagnoses

#### When services are Cosmetic and Not Medically Necessary:

For the procedure codes listed above, when criteria are not met for medically necessary or reconstructive services, or when the code describes a procedure indicated in the Position Statement section as cosmetic and not medically necessary.

### B. Otoplasty

#### When services may be Medically Necessary or Reconstructive when criteria are met

##### CPT

21086	Impression and custom preparation; auricular prosthesis
69300	Otoplasty, protruding ear, with or without size reduction
69399	Unlisted procedure, external ear [when specified as other otoplasty]

##### HCPCS

L8045	Auricular prosthesis, provided by a nonphysician
L8699	Prosthetic implant, not otherwise specified [when describing a prefabricated, custom-fitted auricular implant]

##### ICD-10 Procedure

09S00ZZ-09S2XZZ	Reposition external ear [right, left or bilateral, by approach; includes codes 09S00ZZ, 09S04ZZ, 09S0XZZ, 09S10ZZ, 09S14ZZ, 09S1XZZ, 09S20ZZ, 09S24ZZ, 09S2XZZ]
09U007Z-09U2X7Z	Supplement external ear with autologous tissue substitute [right, left or bilateral, by approach; includes codes 09U007Z, 09U0X7Z, 09U107Z, 09U1X7Z, 09U207Z, 09U2X7Z]
09U00JZ-09U2XJZ	Supplement external ear with synthetic substitute [right, left or bilateral, by approach; includes codes 09U00JZ, 09U0XJZ, 09U10JZ, 09U1XJZ, 09U20JZ, 09U2XJZ]
09U00KZ-09U2XKZ	Supplement external ear with nonautologous tissue substitute [right, left or bilateral, by approach; includes codes 09U00KZ, 09U0XKZ, 09U10KZ, 09U1XKZ, 09U20KZ, 09U2XKZ]
0HN2XZZ-0HN3XZZ	Release ear skin, external approach [right or left; includes codes 0HN2XZZ, 0HN3XZZ]
090007Z-0902X7Z	Alteration of external ear with autologous tissue substitute [right, left or bilateral, by approach; includes codes 090007Z, 090037Z, 090047Z, 0900X7Z, 090107Z, 090137Z, 090147Z, 0901X7Z, 090207Z, 090237Z, 090247Z, 0902X7Z]
09000JZ-0902XJZ	Alteration of external ear with synthetic substitute [right, left or bilateral, by approach; includes codes 09000JZ, 09003JZ, 09004JZ, 0900XJZ, 09010JZ, 09013JZ, 09014JZ, 0901XJZ, 09020JZ, 09023JZ, 09024JZ, 0902XJZ]
09000KZ-0902XKZ	Alteration of external ear with nonautologous tissue substitute [right, left or bilateral, by approach; includes codes 09000KZ, 09003KZ, 09004KZ, 0900XKZ, 09010KZ, 09013KZ, 09014KZ, 0901XKZ, 09020KZ, 09023KZ, 09024KZ, 0902XKZ]
09000ZZ-0902XZZ	Alteration of external ear [right, left or bilateral, by approach; includes codes 09000ZZ, 09003ZZ, 09004ZZ, 0900XZZ, 09010ZZ, 09013ZZ, 09014ZZ, 0901XZZ, 09020ZZ, 09023ZZ, 09024ZZ, 0902XZZ]

#### ICD-10 Diagnosis

All diagnoses

#### When services are Cosmetic and Not Medically Necessary:

For the procedure codes listed above, when criteria are not met for medically necessary or reconstructive services, or when the code describes a procedure indicated in the Position Statement section as cosmetic and not medically necessary, including the following

#### HCPCS

L8699 Prosthetic implant, not otherwise specified [when describing a custom-fabricated auricular implant]

#### ICD-10 Diagnosis

All diagnoses

#### C. Rhinophyma Surgery

#### When services may be Medically Necessary when criteria are met:

#### CPT

30120 Excision or surgical planing of skin of nose for rhinophyma

#### ICD-10 Procedure

0HB1XZZ Excision of face skin, external approach

#### ICD-10 Diagnosis

L71.1 Rhinophyma

#### When services are Cosmetic and Not Medically Necessary:

For the procedure codes listed above when criteria are not met for medically necessary services, or when the code describes a procedure indicated in the Position Statement section as cosmetic and not medically necessary.

#### D. Rhinoplasty or Rhinoseptoplasty

#### When services may be Medically Necessary or Reconstructive when criteria are met:

#### CPT

30400-30420 Rhinoplasty, primary [includes codes 30400, 30410, 30420]  
30430-30450 Rhinoplasty, secondary [includes codes 30430, 30435, 30450]

#### ICD-10 Procedure

09UK07Z-09UKX7Z Supplement nose with autologous tissue substitute [by approach; includes codes 09UK07Z, 09UKX7Z]  
09UK0JZ-09UKXJZ Supplement nose with synthetic substitute [by approach; includes codes 09UK0JZ, 09UKXJZ]  
09UK0KZ-09UKXKZ Supplement nose with nonautologous tissue substitute [by approach; includes codes 09UK0KZ, 09UKXKZ]  
0NUB07Z Supplement nasal bone with autologous tissue substitute, open approach  
0NUB0JZ Supplement nasal bone with synthetic substitute, open approach  
0NUB0KZ Supplement nasal bone with nonautologous tissue substitute, open approach  
090K07Z-090KX7Z Alteration of nose with autologous tissue substitute [by approach; includes codes 090K07Z, 090K37Z, 090K47Z, 090KX7Z]  
090K0JZ-090KXJZ Alteration of nose with synthetic substitute [by approach; includes codes 090K0JZ, 090K3JZ, 090K4JZ, 090KXJZ]  
090K0KZ-090KXKZ Alteration of nose with nonautologous tissue substitute [by approach; includes codes 090K0KZ, 090K3KZ, 090K4KZ, 090KXKZ]  
090K0ZZ-090KXZZ Alteration of nose [by approach; includes codes 090K0ZZ, 090K3ZZ, 090K4ZZ, 090KXZZ]

#### ICD-10 Diagnosis

All diagnoses

#### When services are Cosmetic and Not Medically Necessary:

For the procedure codes listed above when criteria are not met for medically necessary or reconstructive services, or when the code describes a procedure indicated in the Position Statement section as cosmetic and not medically necessary.

#### E. Rhytidectomy (face lift)

**When services may be Reconstructive when criteria are met:****CPT**

15824	Rhytidectomy; forehead
15828	Rhytidectomy, cheek, chin, and neck
15829	Rhytidectomy; superficial musculoaponeurotic system (SMAS) flap

**ICD-10 Procedure**

0JD00ZZ	Extraction of scalp subcutaneous tissue and fascia, open approach
0JD03ZZ	Extraction of scalp subcutaneous tissue and fascia, percutaneous approach
0JD10ZZ	Extraction of face subcutaneous tissue and fascia, open approach
0JD13ZZ	Extraction of face subcutaneous tissue and fascia, percutaneous approach
0J010ZZ	Alteration of face subcutaneous tissue and fascia, open approach
0J013ZZ	Alteration of face subcutaneous tissue and fascia, percutaneous approach
0W020ZZ	Alteration of face, open approach
0W023ZZ	Alteration of face, percutaneous approach

**ICD-10 Diagnosis**

All diagnoses

**When services are Cosmetic and Not Medically Necessary:**

For the procedure codes listed above when criteria are not met for medically necessary or reconstructive services, or when the code describes a procedure indicated in the Position Statement section as cosmetic and not medically necessary.

*F. Cranial Nerve Procedures***When services may be Medically Necessary or Reconstructive when criteria are met:****CPT**

15840-15845	Graft for facial nerve paralysis [includes codes 15840, 15841, 15842, 15845]
64716	Neuroplasty and/or transposition; cranial nerve
64732-64742	Transection or avulsion (nerves of face) [includes codes 64732, 64734, 64736, 64738, 64740, 64742]
64864-64865	Suture of facial nerve [includes codes 64864, 64865]
64866-64868	Anastomosis (facial nerves) [includes codes 64866, 64868]
69955	Total facial nerve decompression and/or repair (may include graft)

**ICD-10 Procedure**

00NH0ZZ-00NH4ZZ	Release oculomotor nerve [by approach; includes codes 00NH0ZZ, 00NH3ZZ, 00NH4ZZ]
00NJ0ZZ-00NJ4ZZ	Release trochlear nerve [by approach; includes codes 00NJ0ZZ, 00NJ3ZZ, 00NJ4ZZ]
00NK0ZZ-00NK4ZZ	Release trigeminal nerve [by approach; includes codes 00NK0ZZ, 00NK3ZZ, 00NK4ZZ]
00NL0ZZ-00NL4ZZ	Release abducens nerve [by approach; includes codes 00NL0ZZ, 00NL3ZZ, 00NL4ZZ]
00NM0ZZ-00NM4ZZ	Release facial nerve [by approach; includes codes 00NM0ZZ, 00NM3ZZ, 00NM4ZZ]
00QH0ZZ-00QH4ZZ	Repair oculomotor nerve [by approach; includes codes 00QH0ZZ, 00QH3ZZ, 00QH4ZZ]
00QJ0ZZ-00QJ4ZZ	Repair trochlear nerve [by approach; includes codes 00QJ0ZZ, 00QJ3ZZ, 00QJ4ZZ]
00QK0ZZ-00QK4ZZ	Repair trigeminal nerve [by approach; includes codes 00QK0ZZ, 00QK3ZZ, 00QK4ZZ]
00QL0ZZ-00QL4ZZ	Repair abducens nerve [by approach; includes codes 00QL0ZZ, 00QL3ZZ, 00QL4ZZ]
00QM0ZZ-00QM4ZZ	Repair facial nerve [by approach; includes codes 00QM0ZZ, 00QM3ZZ, 00QM4ZZ]
00SH0ZZ-00SH4ZZ	Reposition oculomotor nerve [by approach; includes codes 00SH0ZZ, 00SH3ZZ, 00SH4ZZ]
00SJ0ZZ-00SJ4ZZ	Reposition trochlear nerve [by approach; includes codes 00SJ0ZZ, 00SJ3ZZ, 00SJ4ZZ]
00SK0ZZ-00SK4ZZ	Reposition trigeminal nerve [by approach; includes codes 00SK0ZZ, 00SK3ZZ, 00SK4ZZ]
00SL0ZZ-00SL4ZZ	Reposition abducens nerve [by approach; includes codes 00SL0ZZ, 00SL3ZZ, 00SL4ZZ]
00SM0ZZ-00SM4ZZ	Reposition facial nerve [by approach; includes codes 00SM0ZZ, 00SM3ZZ, 00SM4ZZ]
00XF0ZH-00XF4ZM	Transfer olfactory nerve [by destination and approach; includes codes 00XF0ZH, 00XF0ZJ, 00XF0ZK, 00XF0ZL, 00XF0ZM, 00XF4ZH, 00XF4ZJ, 00XF4ZK, 00XF4ZL, 00XF4ZM]
00XG0ZH-00XG4ZM	Transfer optic nerve [by destination and approach; includes codes 00XG0ZH, 00XG0ZJ, 00XG0ZK, 00XG0ZL, 00XG0ZM, 00XG4ZH, 00XG4ZJ, 00XG4ZK, 00XG4ZL, 00XG4ZM]
00XH0ZH-00XH4ZM	Transfer oculomotor nerve [by destination and approach; includes codes 00XH0ZH, 00XH0ZJ, 00XH0ZK, 00XH0ZL, 00XH0ZM, 00XH4ZH, 00XH4ZJ, 00XH4ZK, 00XH4ZL, 00XH4ZM]
00XJ0ZH-00XJ4ZM	Transfer trochlear nerve [by destination and approach; includes codes 00XJ0ZH, 00XJ0ZJ, 00XJ0ZK, 00XJ0ZL, 00XJ0ZM, 00XJ4ZH, 00XJ4ZJ, 00XJ4ZK, 00XJ4ZL, 00XJ4ZM]
00XK0ZH-00XK4ZM	Transfer trigeminal nerve [by destination and approach; includes codes 00XK0ZH, 00XK0ZJ, 00XK0ZK, 00XK0ZL, 00XK0ZM, 00XK4ZH, 00XK4ZJ, 00XK4ZK, 00XK4ZL, 00XK4ZM]
00XL0ZH-00XL4ZM	Transfer abducens nerve [by destination and approach; includes codes 00XL0ZH, 00XL0ZJ, 00XL0ZK, 00XL0ZL, 00XL0ZM, 00XL4ZH, 00XL4ZJ, 00XL4ZK, 00XL4ZL, 00XL4ZM]
00XM0ZH-00XM4ZM	Transfer facial nerve [by destination and approach; includes codes 00XM0ZH, 00XM0ZJ, 00XM0ZK, 00XM0ZL, 00XM0ZM, 00XM4ZH, 00XM4ZJ, 00XM4ZK, 00XM4ZL, 00XM4ZM]
00XN0ZH-00XN4ZM	Transfer acoustic nerve [by cranial nerve destination and approach; includes codes 00XN0ZH, 00XN0ZJ, 00XN0ZK, 00XN0ZL, 00XN0ZM, 00XN4ZH, 00XN4ZJ, 00XN4ZK, 00XN4ZL, 00XN4ZM]
00XP0ZH-00XP4ZM	Transfer glossopharyngeal nerve [by cranial nerve destination and approach; includes codes 00XP0ZH, 00XP0ZJ, 00XP0ZK, 00XP0ZL, 00XP0ZM, 00XP4ZH, 00XP4ZJ, 00XP4ZK, 00XP4ZL, 00XP4ZM]
00XQ0ZH-00XQ4ZM	Transfer vagus nerve [by cranial nerve destination and approach; includes codes 00XQ0ZH, 00XQ0ZJ, 00XQ0ZK, 00XQ0ZL, 00XQ0ZM, 00XQ4ZH, 00XQ4ZJ, 00XQ4ZK, 00XQ4ZL, 00XQ4ZM]
00XR0ZH-00XR4ZM	Transfer accessory nerve [by cranial nerve destination and approach; includes codes 00XR0ZH, 00XR0ZJ, 00XR0ZK, 00XR0ZL, 00XR0ZM, 00XR4ZH, 00XR4ZJ, 00XR4ZK, 00XR4ZL, 00XR4ZM]
00XS0ZH-00XS4ZM	Transfer hypoglossal nerve [by cranial nerve destination and approach; includes codes 00XS0ZH, 00XS0ZJ, 00XS0ZK, 00XS0ZL, 00XS0ZM, 00XS4ZH, 00XS4ZJ, 00XS4ZK, 00XS4ZL, 00XS4ZM]

## ICD-10 Diagnosis

All diagnoses

### When services are Not Medically Necessary:

For the procedure codes listed above when criteria are not met for medically necessary or reconstructive services, or when the code describes a procedure indicated in the Position Statement section as not medically necessary.

#### G. Other Procedures (Ear piercing, Frown lines, Neck Tuck)

### When services are Cosmetic and Not Medically Necessary:

#### CPT

15819	Cervicoplasty
15825	Rhytidectomy; neck with platysmal tightening (platysmal flap, P-flap)
15826	Rhytidectomy; glabellar frown lines
15838	Excision, excessive skin and subcutaneous tissue (including lipectomy); submental fat pad
15876	Suction assisted lipectomy; head and neck
69090	Ear piercing

#### ICD-10 Procedure

0JD40ZZ	Extraction of anterior neck subcutaneous tissue and fascia, open approach
0JD43ZZ	Extraction of anterior neck subcutaneous tissue and fascia, percutaneous approach
0JD50ZZ	Extraction of posterior neck subcutaneous tissue and fascia, open approach
0JD53ZZ	Extraction of posterior neck subcutaneous tissue and fascia, percutaneous approach
0W060ZZ	Alteration of neck, open approach
0W063ZZ	Alteration of neck, percutaneous approach
8E0HXY9	Piercing of integumentary system and breast

#### ICD-10 Diagnosis

All diagnoses

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*The use of specific product names is illustrative only. It is not intended to be a recommendation of one product over another, and is not intended to represent a complete listing of all products available.*

### Document History

Status	Date	Action
Reviewed	02/15/2024	Medical Policy & Technology Assessment Committee (MPTAC) review. Updated References section. Updated Coding section to add CPT code 21086 and HCPCS code L8045.
	09/27/2023	Updated Coding section regarding SMAS flap rhytidectomy, may be considered reconstructive when criteria are met.
Reviewed	02/16/2023	MPTAC review. Updated Description, Background and References sections.
Reviewed	02/17/2022	MPTAC review. Updated References section.
Revised	02/11/2021	MPTAC review. Added cosmetic and not medically necessary statement regarding custom fabricated implants used in otoplasty. Removed term "physical" from the term "physical functional impairment" in the Facial Plastic Surgery, Otoplasty, Rhinophyma, Rhinoplasty or Rhinoseptoplasty and Cranial Nerve Procedures position statements. Updated Rationale, Background and References sections. Updated Coding section; added L8699, removed deleted ICD-10-PCS codes.
Reviewed	02/20/2020	MPTAC review. Updated References section.
Reviewed	03/21/2019	MPTAC review. Updated References.
Reviewed	03/22/2018	MPTAC review. The document header wording updated from "Current Effective Date" to "Publish Date." Updated References and Websites sections.
Reviewed	05/04/2017	MPTAC review. Updated References and Websites sections. Updated formatting in Position Statement section.
Revised	05/05/2016	MPTAC review. Moved term submental lipectomy to neck tuck within position statement. Updated Description, Background/Overview, References and Websites for Additional Information sections. Removed ICD-9 codes from Coding section.
Reviewed	05/07/2015	MPTAC review. Updated References and Websites for Additional Information sections.
Revised	05/15/2014	MPTAC review. Added a reconstructive statement for rhinoseptoplasty, rhinoseptoplasty to the cosmetic and not medically necessary statement (when criteria are not met), and a <i>Note</i> cross-referencing to CG-SURG-18 ( <i>Note</i> : Rhinoseptoplasty is considered medically necessary when the criteria above for rhinoplasty are met and medically necessary criteria in CG-SURG-18 Septoplasty are also met). Updated Description, Background/Overview, Definitions, and References sections.
Reviewed	08/08/2013	MPTAC review. Minor format and spacing changes. Updated References, Websites for Additional Information, and Index sections.
Revised	08/09/2012	MPTAC review. Revised section title and cosmetic and not medically necessary statement related to: A. Facial Plastic Surgery: (including, but not limited to, submental lipectomy); clarified reconstructive and cosmetic and not medically necessary statements: B. Otoplasty. Updated Description (added <i>Note</i> with cross-reference to SURG.00049 Mandibular/Maxillary (Orthognathic) Surgery), Background, Definitions, Coding, References and Websites for Additional Information.



Revised	11/17/2011	MPTAC review. Clarified Position Statements for specific indications. Added a cosmetic and not medically necessary statement to the section: Facial Plastic Surgery. Updated References, Websites for Additional Information, and Index.
Reviewed	11/18/2010	MPTAC review. Reordered text and updated Background/Overview. Reformatted Definitions. Updated References and Index.
Reviewed	11/19/2009	MPTAC review. Clarified and reformatted Position Statements. Updated References.
Reviewed	11/20/2008	MPTAC review. Background, References, and Index updated.
	04/01/2008	A <b>NOTE</b> was added after the Reconstructive definition to clarify that not all benefit contracts include a reconstructive services benefit. Coding updated.
Revised	11/29/2007	MPTAC review. Clarification of Position Statements. Revision of Position Statement for reconstructive rhinoplasty for nasal fractures. Not medically necessary statement added for cranial nerve procedures to align with existing coding. Background, Coding and References updated. The phrase "cosmetic/not medically necessary" was clarified to read "cosmetic and not medically necessary."
Reviewed	12/07/2006	MPTAC review. References updated.
	01/01/2007	Updated Coding section with 01/01/2007 CPT/HCPCS changes.
Revised	12/01/2005	MPTAC review. Provided clarification of Position Statement for when otoplasty is considered reconstructive.
	11/21/2005	Added reference for Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) – National Coverage Determination (NCD).
Reviewed	09/22/2005	MPTAC review. Revision based on Pre-merger Anthem and Pre-merger WellPoint Harmonization.

<b>Pre-Merger Organizations</b>	<b>Last Review Date</b>	<b>Document Number</b>	<b>Title</b>
Anthem, Inc.	04/28/2005	ANC.00008	Cosmetic and Reconstructive Services of the Head and Neck
WellPoint Health Networks, Inc.	04/28/2005	3.03.04	Otoplasty
	04/28/2005	Clinical Document	Reconstruction of the External Ear
	04/28/2005	Clinical Document	Rhinoplasty

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