Clinical Review Criteria
Breast Implant Removal & Re-Implantation

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Criteria
For Medicare Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Policy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMS Coverage Manuals</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Coverage Determinations (NCD)</td>
<td>Breast Reconstruction Following Mastectomy (140.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Coverage Determinations (LCD)</td>
<td>Non-Covered Services (L35008). And for facility-based services billed using a UB form, see Non-Covered Services (L34886)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Coverage Articles</td>
<td>Cosmetic vs. Reconstructive Surgery Coverage (A52729)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For Non-Medicare Members

Breast implant removal is covered when All of the following criteria are met:
1. Breast implants were part of a reconstructive procedure meeting criteria for breast reconstructive surgery.
2. One of the following clinical symptoms are present:
   a. Infection related to implant
   b. Implant extrusion
   c. Ruptured implant
   d. Baker Classification* Class II to IV contracture
   e. Interference with diagnosis and/or treatment of breast cancer

Additionally, breast implant removal is covered if the implants were placed for a diagnosis of breast cancer or other malignancy involving the breast, See Breast Reconstruction or Breast Prostheses following Mastectomy/Lumpectomy.

*Baker Classification:
Class I augmented Breast feels as soft as a normal breast
Class II augmented breast is less soft and implant can be palpated, but is not visible
Class III augmented breast is firm, palpable and the implant (or distortion) is visible
Class IV augmented breast is hard, painful, cold, tender, and distorted

Background
Breast implant removal is medically necessary under limited circumstances.

Medical Technology Assessment Committee (MTAC)

Silicone Breast Implant Removal
09/11/1999: MTAC REVIEW

Evidence Conclusion: The committee reviewed the available data on the safety of silicone breast implants and concluded: There is no evidence linking silicone breast implants to cancer in women. The elective removal of...
existing implants is not recommended. There is concern and there may be a relationship between silicone breast implants and the development of connective tissue disease, although there is no epidemiological evidence. Silicone breast implants can impede early detection of breast cancer in cases of cosmetic breast augmentation, but do not in cases of breast reconstruction following extractive surgery.

**Articles:** Committee reviewed the available data on the safety of silicone breast implants and concluded: There is no evidence linking silicone breast implants to cancer in women. The elective removal of existing implants is not recommended. There is concern and there may be a relationship between silicone breast implants and the development of connective tissue disease, although there is no epidemiological evidence. Silicone breast implants can impede early detection of breast cancer in cases of cosmetic breast augmentation, but do not in cases of breast reconstruction following extractive surgery. Capsular contracture does occur in many patients and patients should be advised, before implantation, that it is a possible side effect that is normal and not harmful to their health.

The use of silicone breast implant removal for prevention of breast cancer does not meet the Kaiser Permanente Medical Technology Assessment Criteria.

### 2001: MTAC REVIEW

**Silicone Breast Implant Removal**

**Evidence Conclusion:** Evidence update outside of committee process that supported the 1999 outcome.

**Articles:** Intern Med J 2001 Mar 31 (2):77-89 Women's health after plastic surgery.


No meeting discussion.

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<tr>
<th>Date Created</th>
<th>Date Reviewed</th>
<th>Date Last Revised</th>
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**Codes**

CPT: 19328, 19330