

Coverage of any medical intervention discussed in a Medica medical policy is subject to the limitations and exclusions outlined in the member's benefit certificate or summary plan description (SPD) and applicable state and/or federal laws.

Wireless Capsule Endoscopy (CE) and Capsule Technology to Verify Patency Prior to Capsule Endoscopy

MP9626

Covered Service: Yes

Prior Authorization Required: No

Additional Information: See [Gastrointestinal Monitoring System \(SmartPill\) MP9707](#) for additional information.

Medica Medical Policy:

- 1.0 Wireless capsule endoscopy (CE) of the small bowel as a diagnostic imaging tool **does not require** prior authorization and is considered medically necessary for **ANY** of the following indications:
 - 1.1 Occult gastrointestinal bleeding: In evaluation of obscure small bowel bleeding or iron deficiency anemia, suspected to be secondary to loss of blood, in members who have undergone upper gastrointestinal (GI) endoscopy and colonoscopy when these tests have failed to reveal a source of bleeding.
 - 1.2 Crohn's disease: For diagnostic and/or reevaluation in symptomatic members with known or suspected Crohn's disease and who have undergone upper GI endoscopy and colonoscopy and the testing has failed to reveal the source of the symptoms.
 - 1.3 Small bowel neoplasm: In evaluation of suspected, but undiagnosed, small bowel neoplasm, in members who are symptomatic for a neoplasm and when the diagnosis has not been confirmed by upper GI endoscopy, colonoscopy, and nuclear imaging or radiologic procedures.
 - 1.4 GI polyposis syndromes: For surveillance of the small bowel in members with hereditary small bowel polyposis syndromes, including familial adenomatous polyposis and Peutz-Jeghers syndrome.
 - 1.5 Refractory celiac disease
- 2.0 Wireless capsule endoscopy is considered experimental and investigational, and therefore not medically necessary for all other indications.
- 3.0 The use of capsule technology to verify patency prior to capsule endoscopy is considered experimental and investigational, and therefore not medically necessary.



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