SINUNEB AEROSOLIZED ANTIBIOTIC TREATMENT FOR SINUSITIS
MED201.020

COVERAGE:

SinuNEB aerosolized antibiotic treatment is not covered as it is considered experimental/investigational for the treatment of sinusitis.

DESCRIPTION:

The SinuNEB is a device that uses compounded medications that are aerosolized to a particle size small enough to disperse within the sinus cavities. According to the manufacturer of the SinuNEB, administration of antibiotics via nebulization directly to the lining of the sinuses results in a more rapid response, greater effectiveness, reduced reinfection, and fewer side effects than oral or intravenous antibiotic administration.

RATIONALE:

There are no published scientifically based clinical studies to support the manufacturer's claims. In addition, none of the recent published guidelines on sinusitis management from professional medical organizations discuss any role for aerosolized antibiotics.

DISCLAIMER:

State and federal law, as well as contract language, including definitions and specific inclusions/exclusions, takes precedence over Medical Policy and must be considered first in determining coverage. The member’s contract benefits in effect on the date that services are rendered must be used. Any benefits are subject to the payment of premiums for the date on which services are rendered. Medical technology is constantly evolving, and we reserve the right to review and update Medical Policy periodically. HMO Blue Texas physicians who are contracted/affiliated with a capitated IPA/medical group must contact the IPA/medical group for information regarding HMO claims/reimbursement information and other general polices and procedures.

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