DESCRIPTION:

There are several options available for the diagnosis and treatment of male infertility. The first step in diagnosing male infertility is semen analysis. Analysis of semen can provide information about problems in the male genital organs; semen analysis can thus be used to select which men to clinically examine further.

The routine semen analysis will determine the mobility of the sperm, sperm count, volume, and sperm morphology (shape). The semen may also be tested for viscosity (thickness), clumping, or significant white blood cells or red blood cells.

Specialized tests for semen analysis include but are not limited to the following:

- Strict Sperm Morphology Determination (see pricing section)
- White blood cells (WBC)/Monoclonal Assay
- Sperm Antibody Assay
- Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) and Total Antioxidant Capacity (TAC)
- Sperm Penetration Assay (SPA or Hamster Test)

RATIONALE:

Routine semen analysis could be the single most important test in the evaluation of a man's fertility.
PRICING:

Strict Sperm Morphology Determination test should be included as part of the semen analysis and not allowed separately.

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 policies and procedures.

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