

**MEDICAL POLICY – 7.01.579**
**Posterior Tibial Nerve Stimulators**

Ref. Policy: MP-129

Effective Date: July 1, 2024

Last Revised: June 24, 2024


Replaces: N/A

RELATED MEDICAL POLICIES:

2.01.540 Biofeedback for Incontinence

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## Introduction

Urinary incontinence is the involuntary leakage of urine. Types of urinary incontinence include stress incontinence, urge incontinence, overflow incontinence, or mixed incontinence. Posterior tibial nerve stimulation (PTNS) is a minimally invasive way to treat urinary incontinence and overactive bladder. It uses a small, thin needle inserted near the ankle and electrical pulses to retrain the nerves that control bladder function. This policy describes when PTNS may be considered medically necessary.

**Note:** The Introduction section is for your general knowledge and is not to be taken as policy coverage criteria. The rest of the policy uses specific words and concepts familiar to medical professionals. It is intended for providers. A provider can be a person, such as a doctor, nurse, psychologist, or dentist. A provider also can be a place where medical care is given, like a hospital, clinic, or lab. This policy informs them about when a service may be covered.

## Policy Coverage Criteria

Device	Medical Necessity
<b>Posterior tibial nerve stimulators (PTNS)</b>	<b>Posterior tibial nerve stimulators (PTNS) for treatment of urinary incontinence may be considered medically necessary</b>

Device	Medical Necessity
	<p><b>for the treatment of adult urinary incontinence when ALL of the following indications and criteria are met:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual has previously been diagnosed with overactive bladder (OAB) and/or urinary incontinence</li> <li>• Documented failed conservative management efforts (e.g., pharmacological treatment, PME, behavioral, etc.), including two anticholinergic drugs taken for at least four weeks</li> <li>• Individual is at least 18 years of age</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> See Related Information below for <a href="#">Limitations</a></p>

## Coding

Code	Description
<b>CPT</b>	
64566	Posterior tibial neurostimulation, percutaneous needle electrode, single treatment, includes programming
<b>ICD-10 Codes Covered if Selection Criteria are Met</b>	
N39.41	Urge incontinence
N39.42	Incontinence without sensory awareness
N39.44	Nocturnal enuresis
N39.45	Continuous leakage
N39.46	Mixed incontinence
N39.490	Overflow incontinence
N39.498	Other specified urinary incontinence
R32	Unspecified urinary incontinence
R39.15	Urgency of urination

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## Related Information

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### Limitations

- Initial treatment is limited to 30-minute sessions once a week for 12 weeks.
- The individual must have documented evidence of at least 50% improvement in incontinence symptoms after the initial 12 sessions for continued coverage.
  - Continued treatment is covered for 1 session every 1-2 months for no more than 3 years.

Stress and neurogenic incontinence would not be expected to improve with posterior tibial nerve stimulators.

## Evidence Review

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### Background

It is estimated that over 25 million adult Americans suffer from urinary incontinence, with women being twice as likely as men to have urinary incontinence. The Mayo Clinic categorizes urinary incontinence into the following types: stress, urge, overflow, functional, and mixed.

Posterior tibial nerve stimulation (PTNS), a minimally invasive procedure, consists of insertion of an acupuncture needle above the medial malleolus into a superficial branch of the posterior tibial nerve. An adjustable low voltage electrical impulse (10mA, 1-10 Hz frequency) travels via the posterior tibial nerve to the sacral nerve plexus to alter pelvic floor function by neuromodulation. PTNS is used to treat overactive bladder syndrome and associated symptoms.

## References

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## History

Date	Comments
09/16/19	New policy, approved August 13, 2019, effective January 1, 2020. Posterior tibial nerve stimulators (PTNS) for treatment of urinary incontinence may be considered medically necessary for the treatment of adult urinary incontinence when all indications and criteria are met.
10/01/20	Annual Review, approved September 17, 2020. No changes to policy statement, references updated.
10/01/21	Annual Review, approved September 23, 2021. No changes to policy statement, references updated.
01/01/23	Annual Review, approved December 12, 2022. No changes to policy statement, references updated. Changed the wording from "patient" to "individual" throughout the policy for standardization.
11/01/23	Annual Review, approved October 23, 2023. No changes to policy statement, references updated.
07/01/24	Annual Review, approved June 24, 2024. No changes to policy statement, references updated.



**Disclaimer:** This medical policy is a guide in evaluating the medical necessity of a particular service or treatment. The Company adopts policies after careful review of published peer-reviewed scientific literature, national guidelines and local standards of practice. Since medical technology is constantly changing, the Company reserves the right to review and update policies as appropriate. Member contracts differ in their benefits. Always consult the member benefit booklet or contact a member service representative to determine coverage for a specific medical service or supply. CPT codes, descriptions and materials are copyrighted by the American Medical Association (AMA). ©2024 Premera All Rights Reserved.

**Scope:** Medical policies are systematically developed guidelines that serve as a resource for Company staff when determining coverage for specific medical procedures, drugs or devices. Coverage for medical services is subject to the limits and conditions of the member benefit plan. Members and their providers should consult the member benefit booklet or contact a customer service representative to determine whether there are any benefit limitations applicable to this service or supply. This medical policy only applies to Individual Plans.





### Discrimination is Against the Law

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### Language Assistance

**ATENCIÓN:** si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 800-817-3056 (TTY: 711).

**注意:** 如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 800-817-3056 (TTY: 711)。

**CHÚ Ý:** Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 800-817-3056 (TTY: 711).

**주의:** 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 800-817-3056 (TTY: 711) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

**ВНИМАНИЕ:** Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните 800-817-3056 (телетайп: 711).

**PAUNAWA:** Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa 800-817-3056 (TTY: 711).

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Телефонуйте за номером 800-817-3056 (телетайп: 711).

**ប្រយ័ត្ន:** បើសិនជាអ្នកនិយាយ ភាសាខ្មែរ, សេវាជំនួយផ្នែកភាសា ដោយមិនគិតល្អល្អ គឺអាចមានសំរាប់អ្នក។ ចូរ ទូរស័ព្ទ 800-817-3056 (TTY: 711)។

**注意事項:** 日本語を話される場合、無料の言語支援をご利用いただけます。800-817-3056 (TTY:711) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

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**XIYYEEFFANNAA:** Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa 800-817-3056 (TTY: 711).

**ملحوظة:** إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم 800-817-3056 (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم: 711).

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**ACHTUNG:** Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 800-817-3056 (TTY: 711).

**ໂປດອຸບ:** ຖ້າວ່າ ທ່ານເວົ້າພາສາ ລາວ, ການບໍລິການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອດ້ານພາສາ, ໂດຍບໍ່ຄ່າສ່ຽງຄ່າ, ຄວນມີພ້ອມໃຫ້ທ່ານ. ໂທ 800-817-3056 (TTY: 711).

**ATANSYON:** Si w pale Kreyòl Ayisyen, gen sévis èd pou lang ki disponib gratis pou ou. Rele 800-817-3056 (TTY: 711).

**ATTENTION:** Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le 800-817-3056 (ATS : 711).

**UWAGA:** Jezeli mówisz po polsku, możesz skorzystać z bezpłatnej pomocy językowej. Zadzwoń pod numer 800-817-3056 (TTY: 711).

**ATENÇÃO:** Se fala português, encontram-se disponíveis serviços linguísticos, grátis. Ligue para 800-817-3056 (TTY: 711).

**ATTENZIONE:** In caso la lingua parlata sia l'italiano, sono disponibili servizi di assistenza linguistica gratuiti. Chiamare il numero 800-817-3056 (TTY: 711).

**توجه:** اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با 800-817-3056 (TTY: 711) تماس بگیرید.