Guidelines for Medical Necessity Determination for Orthognathic Surgery

These Guidelines for Medical Necessity Determination (Guidelines) identify the clinical information that MassHealth needs to determine medical necessity for orthognathic surgery. These Guidelines are based on generally accepted standards of practice, review of the medical literature, and federal and state policies and laws applicable to Medicaid programs.

Providers should consult MassHealth regulations at 130 CMR 420.453 and Service Codes and Descriptions (Subchapter 6) of the Dental Manual for information about coverage, limitations, service conditions, and prior authorization requirements.

Providers serving members enrolled in a MassHealth-contracted accountable care partnership plan (ACPP), managed care organization (MCO), integrated care organization (ICO), senior care organization (SCO), or program of all-inclusive care for the elderly (PACE), should refer to the ACPP’s, MCO’s, ICO’s, SCO’s or PACE’s medical policies for covered services.

MassHealth requires prior authorization for orthognathic surgery services. MassHealth reviews requests for prior authorization on the basis of medical necessity. If MassHealth approves the request, payment is still subject to all general conditions of MassHealth, including member eligibility, other insurance, and program restrictions.

SECTION I. GENERAL INFORMATION

MassHealth considers requests for approval of orthognathic surgery on a case-by-case basis, and evaluates each request for approval in accordance with all requirements set forth in 130 CMR 420.453 and 130 CMR 450.204. MassHealth pays for orthognathic surgery and orthodontic treatment related to orthognathic surgery that meets all criteria described in 130 CMR 420.431. MassHealth considers orthognathic surgery medically necessary and requires prior authorization for congenital and acquired anomalies, temporomandibular joint pathology/disorders, growth disturbances and select surgical procedures for obstructive sleep apnea.

Orthognathic surgery is the surgical correction of abnormalities of the mandible, maxilla, or both. The underlying abnormality may be present at birth, may become evident as the member grows and develops, or may be the result of traumatic injuries. The severity of these deformities precludes adequate treatment through dental treatment alone. The primary goal of orthognathic surgery is to improve function through correction of the underlying skeletal deformity. MassHealth does not cover orthognathic surgery for cosmetic purposes.

A. Facial Skeletal Deformities and Masticatory Dysfunction

MassHealth considers orthognathic surgery medically necessary for correction of skeletal deformities of the maxilla or mandible with documentation showing that these skeletal deformities contribute to significant masticatory dysfunction, and where the severity of the deformities
precludes adequate treatment through dental therapeutics and orthodontics. The classification and analysis of dentofacial skeletal deformities is complex and involves discrepancies in all planes of space.

Common examples are congenital anomalies such as cleft lip and palate; apertognathia, lateral or anterior not correctable by orthodontics alone; significant asymmetry of the lower jaw; or significant class II and class III occlusal discrepancies. MassHealth considers orthognathic surgery medically necessary for acquired masticatory dysfunction related to cysts and tumors of the jaws.

B. Facial Skeletal Discrepancies Associated with Speech Impairments

MassHealth considers orthognathic surgery medically necessary for treatment of speech impairments accompanying severe cleft deformity. Orthognathic surgery may help to reduce the flattening of the face that is characteristic of severe cleft deformity. Osteotomy techniques along with bone and cartilage grafts can reposition and surgically reconstruct the upper and lower jaws and facial skeletal framework.

C. Facial Skeletal Discrepancies Associated with Documented Sleep Apnea, Airway Defects, and Soft Tissue Discrepancies.

MassHealth considers orthognathic surgery medically necessary in cases where it is documented that mandibular and maxillary deformities are contributing to airway dysfunction, where such dysfunction is not amenable to non-surgical treatments, and where it is shown that orthognathic surgery will decrease airway resistance and improve breathing.

D. Temporomandibular Joint Pathology Resulting in Disease, Disorders and Dysfunctions

MassHealth considers orthognathic surgery for correction of Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ) disorders and temporomandibular disease (TMD) medically necessary for surgical intervention for internal derangement only. Surgery is not indicated for asymptomatic or minimally symptomatic patients. Surgery also is not indicated for preventive reasons in patients without pain and with satisfactory function.

The precise etiology of TMJ disease, disorders, dysfunctions and TMD (intracapsular or extracapsular) has not yet been identified; these conditions are believed to be the result of either “macro” or “micro” trauma affecting the joint and/or the associated facial musculature. Specialized radiological studies such as cephalometric x-rays, tomograms, and submental vertex radiographs are considered medically necessary when evaluating persons with TMD for surgical considerations.

E. Orthodontic Treatment Prior to Orthognathic Surgery

Dental anomalies and malocclusion evaluation are covered under MassHealth's dental program and require prior authorization. Orthodontic treatment may be needed prior to orthognathic surgery to position the teeth in a manner that will provide for an adequate occlusion following surgical repositioning of the jaws. The interim occlusion that is achieved by orthodontic treatment may be dysfunctional prior to the orthognathic surgical phase of the treatment plan.
SECTION II. CLINICAL GUIDELINES

A. CLINICAL COVERAGE

MassHealth considers orthognathic surgery medically necessary on a case-by-case basis for correction of skeletal deformities of the maxilla and/or mandible jaw when it is documented that these skeletal deformities are contributing to significant masticatory dysfunction, and where the severity of the deformities precludes adequate treatment through dental therapeutics and orthodontics.

MassHealth bases its determination of medical necessity for orthognathic surgery on clinical data including, but not limited to, indicators that would affect the relative risks and benefits of the orthognathic surgery procedure or related to the use of the surgical equipment/appliances (if appropriate, including post operative recovery). The criteria used are based on “Parameters of Care: AAOMS Clinical Practice Guidelines for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (AAOMS ParCare) Sixth Edition 2017,” as set forth below:

I. Maxillary and/or Mandibular Facial Skeletal Deformities Associated with Masticatory Malocclusion

MassHealth considers orthognathic surgery medically necessary for correction of maxillary and mandibular skeletal deformities associated with masticatory malocclusion as described below, with accompanying documentation demonstrating that the skeletal deformities are contributing to significant dysfunction and preclude adequate treatment through dental therapeutics and orthodontics alone.

1. Anteroposterior discrepancies. The established norm is 2 millimeters (mm) and the values referenced below represent two or more standard deviations (SDs) from published norms.
   a. Maxillary/mandibular incisor relationship with horizontal overjet of +5 mm or horizontal overjet of zero to a negative value.
   b. Maxillary/mandibular anteroposterior molar relationship discrepancy of 4 mm or more (norm 0 - 1 mm).
   c. These values represent two or more SDs from published norms.

2. Vertical discrepancies
   a. Presence of a vertical facial skeletal deformity, which is two or more SDs from published norms for accepted skeletal landmarks.
   b. Open bite with no vertical overlap of anterior teeth or a unilateral or bilateral posterior open bite greater than 2 mm.
   c. Deep overbite with impingement or irritation of buccal or lingual soft tissues of the opposing arch (palatal soft tissues).
   d. Supraeruption of a dentoalveolar segment due to lack of opposing occlusion.

3. Transverse discrepancies
   a. Total bilateral maxillary palatal cusp to mandibular fossa discrepancy of 4 mm or greater, or a unilateral discrepancy of 3 mm or greater, given normal axial inclination of the posterior teeth.
b. Presence of a transverse skeletal discrepancy which is two or more SDs from published norms.

4. Asymmetries. Anteroposterior, transverse or lateral asymmetries greater than 3 mm with concomitant occlusal asymmetry.

5. Functional impairments
   a. Failure to thrive secondary to facial skeletal deformity.
   b. Persistent difficulty with both swallowing and mastication after metabolic and neurological causes are excluded.

II. Osteotomy Surgery of the Jaws Secondary to Congenital Anomalies

MassHealth considers orthognathic surgery medically necessary for correction of structural abnormalities of the maxilla and mandible secondary to congenital anomalies, as described below:

1. Mid-face anomalies from embryogenesis and anatomic location in the nasal cavity, nasofrontal region, nasolacrimal apparatus, and craniofacial syndrome.
2. Mandibular intraoral vertical ramus osteotomy, bilateral sagittal split ramus osteotomy, mandibular osteotomy for congenital micrognathia resulting in respiratory obstruction (i.e. Pierre Robin syndrome.)
3. Maxillary deficiency associated with clefts.

Maxilla Osteotomy Procedures

Osteotomy of maxilla with or without graft covers the entire maxillary surgical procedure for the correction of a maxillary skeletal malocclusion. MassHealth covers the "LeFort Procedures" and any sectioning, advancement, retrusion, elevation, or other movement of the maxilla and its fixation. These procedures are mutually exclusive; that is, only one of these procedures can be used for a specific surgery. These procedures include a bilateral inferior turbinectomy, and/or septoplasty, if necessary.

Mandibular Osteotomy Procedures

Osteotomy of mandible with or without graft covers the entire mandibular surgical procedure for the correction of a mandibular skeletal malocclusion. This procedure includes, but is not limited to, a bilateral sagittal or oblique osteotomy, any necessary myotomies, necessary osteotomies of the inferior border of the mandible, coronoidotomies, and any sectioning, advancement, retrusion, elevation, or other movement of the mandible and its fixation. A genioplasty procedure is included in this procedure only if it is done as a part of a larger orthognathic surgical procedure. A genioplasty procedure is a covered service only if it is done for functional reasons. These procedures are mutually exclusive, that is, only one of these procedures can be billed for a specific surgery.

III. Facial Skeletal Discrepancies Associated with Documented Temporomandibular Joint Pathology

MassHealth considers orthognathic surgery for the treatment of temporomandibular disease, disorders and dysfunctions to be medically necessary only when the disorder is caused by or results in a specific medical condition. Examples of specific medical conditions include but are not limited to myofascial pain secondary to skeletal deformity and non-surgical treatment related to disorders.
and dysfunctions, such as jaw fractures and/or dislocations; rheumatoid, degenerative, or infectious arthritis; condylar atrophy; condylar hyperplasia or hypoplasia; condylar osteolysis; internal derangement; mandibular dislocation; neoplasia; and ankyloses.

In cases where such a medical condition (disorders and dysfunctions) is not present, the provider may submit additional supporting evidence to demonstrate that the requested service is medically necessary. Prior authorization requests for orthognathic surgery for the treatment of temporomandibular disease, disorders and dysfunctions must be accompanied by a comprehensive treatment plan that includes all of the following:

1. Member history and documentation as to why non-surgical treatment was not an acceptable treatment option or, if already performed, did not achieve adequate results. The appropriate choice of care is specific to each patient based on the type and degree of the patient's disorder and management such as medication (e.g., NSAIDs), orthotic appliance and/or physical therapy.
2. The submission of transcranial films in the open, closed, and rest position or the submission of MRI studies with pathology documented by a radiologist.
3. A plan of care for continued treatment for example, if follow-up care beyond the included thirty (30) days is required, number of visits, etc.
4. A documented second opinion from a provider without professional financial relationship with the surgeon requesting prior authorization. The second opinion must also confirm that non-surgical treatment either is not an acceptable treatment option or, if already performed, did not achieve adequate results.

IV. Obstructive Sleep Apnea

MassHealth considers orthognathic surgery for Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) Type I obstruction (soft palate), Type II obstruction (oropharynx/hypopharynx, palate) and Type III obstruction (hypopharynx, base of the tongue), airway defects, and soft tissue discrepancies to be medically necessary with underlying craniofacial mandibular and/or maxillary skeletal deformities contributing to airway dysfunction.

Surgical intervention studies for OSA procedures are limited with insufficient evidence to determine their relative effectiveness. MassHealth covers correction of OSA when all of the following criteria are met:

1. A pre-surgical physical evaluation was performed supporting the need for orthognathic surgery.
2. There is clinical evidence that the member did not respond to or cannot tolerate nasal continuous positive airway pressure (NCPAP).
3. A full polysomnogram was performed with documented results confirming a diagnosis of OSA and the need for surgical treatment.
4. For members with OSA type I obstruction (soft palate), there is clinical documentation that uvulopalatopharyngoplasty (UPPP) treatment was unsuccessful.
5. A fiber optic pharyngoscopy has been performed and cephalometric radiographs with tracing have been taken confirming clinical significant OSA type II obstruction (oropharynx/hypopharynx, palate) and/or type III obstruction (hypoparynx, base of the tongue).
B. NONCOVEREAGE

MassHealth does not consider orthognathic surgery to be medically necessary under certain circumstances. Examples of such circumstances include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Criteria for orthognathic surgeries as described in Section II.A are not met.

2. Orthognathic surgery where structural abnormalities exist.

3. Orthognathic surgery performed primarily for cosmetic purposes.

4. Orthognathic surgery performed to reshape or enhance unaesthetic facial features, regardless of whether such features are associated with psychological disorders. Mentoplasty or genial osteotomies/ostectomies (chin surgeries) are always considered cosmetic when performed as an isolated procedure to address genial hypoplasia, hypertrophy, or asymmetry, and may be considered cosmetic when performed with other surgical procedures.

5. MassHealth considers orthognathic surgery for correction of articulation disorders and other impairments in the production of speech medically necessary with evidence from clinical studies in the peer-reviewed published medical literature demonstrating effectiveness.

6. Orthognathic surgical correction of distortions within the sibilant sound class or for other distortions of speech quality (i.e., hyper-nasal or hypo-nasal speech) without evidence of functional impairment.

7. Non-surgical management, therapeutic services and/or intervention of TMJ disorders/dysfunctions with pharmaceutical therapy, physical therapy, and mandibular orthopedic repositioning appliances are considered treatment information to support medically necessity for orthognathic surgery.

SECTION III. SUBMITTING CLINICAL DOCUMENTATION

MassHealth requires prior authorization requests for orthognathic surgery to be submitted to the Prior Authorization Unit for review. A written explanation of the member’s clinical course, including dates of service and nature of any previous treatment, physical evidence of a skeletal, facial or craniofacial deformity, pre-orthodontic imaging, and a detailed description of the functional impairment considered to be the direct result of the skeletal abnormality, must be submitted in order to obtain prior authorization.

A. Documentation of medical necessity must include all of the following:

a. Comprehensive dental evaluation, lateral and anterior-posterior cephalometric radiographs and tracings, tomograms, submental vertex radiographs and diagnostic quality photographs showing dental malocclusion.

b. Treating physician progress notes and other evaluations with dates of service, social history, present/past medical and physical examination(s), diagnosis, summary of medical and surgical history, and prior management of the functional impairment.

c. Detailed narrative of the anatomic deformity.
d. The primary diagnosis name, CPT code, ICD code, and date of diagnosis.

e. Secondary diagnosis name(s) and ICD codes pertinent to comorbid conditions.

f. Any other clinical information that MassHealth may request.

B. Clinical information must be submitted by an Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon. Providers are strongly encouraged to submit requests electronically. Providers must submit all information pertinent to the diagnosis using the Provider Online Service Center (POSC) or by completing a MassHealth Prior Authorization Request form (using the PA-1 paper form found at www.mass.gov/masshealth) and attaching pertinent documentation. The PA-1 form and documentation should be mailed to the address on the back of the form. Questions regarding POSC access should be directed to the MassHealth Customer Service Center at (800) 841-2900.

### SECTION IV. ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY SERVICE

**CPT CODES THAT REQUIRE PRIOR AUTHORIZATION (CMR 420.453 AND 420.455)**

These service codes may be used only by dental providers who are specialists in oral surgery, in accordance with 130 CMR 420.405(A)(7).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CPT CODE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15820</td>
<td>Blepharoplasty, lower eyelid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15821</td>
<td>Blepharoplasty, lower eyelid with extensive herniated fat pad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15822</td>
<td>Blepharoplasty, upper eyelid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15823</td>
<td>Blepharoplasty, upper eyelid with excessive skin weighting down lid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21137</td>
<td>Reduction forehead, Contouring only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21138</td>
<td>Reduction forehead; Contouring and application of prosthetic material or bone graft (includes obtaining autograft)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21139</td>
<td>Reduction forehead; Contouring and setback of anterior frontal sinus wall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21146</td>
<td>Reconstruction midface, LeFort I; two pieces, segment movement in any direction, requiring bone grafts (includes obtaining autografts) (e.g., ungrafted unilateral alveolar cleft)</td>
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<tr>
<td>21147</td>
<td>Reconstruction midface, LeFort I; three or more pieces, segment movement in any direction, requiring bone grafts (includes obtaining autografts) (e.g., ungrafted bilateral alveolar cleft or multiple osteotomies)</td>
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</table>
21150  Reconstruction midface, LeFort II; anterior intrusion (e.g., Treacher-Collins Syndrome)

21151  Reconstruction midface, LeFort II; any direction, requiring bone grafts (includes obtaining autografts)

21154  Reconstruction midface, LeFort III; (extracranial), any type, requiring bone grafts (includes obtaining autografts); without LeFort I

21155  Reconstruction midface, LeFort III; (extracranial), any type, requiring bone grafts (includes obtaining autografts); with LeFort I

21159  Reconstruction midface forehead advance; LeFort III (extra and intracranial) with forehead advancement (e.g. mono bloc), requiring bone grafts (includes obtaining autografts); without LeFort I

21160  Reconstruction midface forehead advance; with/LeFort I

21172  Reconstruction superior-lateral orbit rim & lower forehead, advancement or alteration, with or without grafts (includes obtaining autografts)

21175  Reconstruction, bifrontal, superior-lateral orbital rims and lower forehead, advancement or alteration (e.g., plagiocephaly, trigonocephaly, brachycephaly), with or without grafts (includes obtaining autografts)

21188  Reconstruction midface, osteotomies (other than LeFort type) and bone grafts (includes obtaining autografts)

21193  Reconstruction of mandibular rami, horizontal vertical, “C,” or “L” osteotomy; without bone graft

21194  Reconstruction of mandibular rami, horizontal vertical, “C,” or “L” osteotomy; with bone graft (includes obtaining graft)

21195  Reconstruction of mandibular rami and/or body, sagittal split; without internal rigid fixation

21196  Reconstruction of mandibular rami and/or body, sagittal split; with internal rigid fixation

21198  Reconstruction of mandibular rami and/or body, osteotomy, mandible, segmental

21206  Osteotomy, maxilla, segmental (e.g., Wassmund or Schuchard)

21208  Osteoplasty, facial bones; augmentation (autograft, allograft, or prosthetic implant)

21209  Osteoplasty, facial bones; reduction

21210  Graft, bone; nasal, maxillary or malar areas (include obtaining graft)
21215  Graft, bone; mandible (includes obtaining graft)
21230  Graft, rib cartilage autogenous to face, chin, nose or ear (includes obtaining graft)
21235  Graft; ear cartilage autogenous to nose or ear (includes obtaining graft)
21240  Arthroplasty temporomandibular joint (TMJ) with or without autograft (includes obtaining autograft)
21242  Arthroplasty temporomandibular joint TMJ with allograft
21243  Arthroplasty temporomandibular joint TMJ with prosthetic joint replacement
21244  Reconstruction of mandible, extra oral, with transosteal bone plate (e.g., mandibular staple bone plate)
21247  Reconstruction of mandible condyle with bone and cartilage autografts (includes obtaining grafts)(e.g., for hemifacial macrosomia)
21255  Reconstruction of zygomatic arch and glenoid fossa with bone and cartilage (includes obtaining autografts)
21299  Unlisted caniofacial and maxillofacial procedure
29800  Arthroscopy, temporomandibular joint TMJ, diagnostic, with or without synovial biopsy (separate procedure)
29804  Arthroscopy temporomandibular joint TMJ Surgical
40840  Vestibuloplasty; anterior
40842  Vestibuloplasty; posterior unilateral
40843  Vestibuloplasty; posterior bilateral
40844  Vestibuloplasty; entire arch
40845  Vestibuloplasty; complex (including ridge extension, muscle repositioning)
41820  Gingivectomy, excision gingiva each quadrant
42280  Maxillary impression for palatal prosthesis
42281  Insertion of pin-retained palatal prosthesis
SELECT REFERENCES


These Guidelines are based on review of the medical literature and current practice in oral and maxillofacial surgery. MassHealth reserves the right to review and update the contents of these Guidelines and cited references as new clinical evidence and medical technology emerge.

This document was prepared for medical professionals to assist them in submitting documentation supporting the medical necessity of the proposed treatment, products or services. Some language used in this communication may be unfamiliar to other readers; in this case, contact your health-care provider for guidance or explanation.

Policy Effective Date: 10/16/18

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