

Medica Coverage Policy



Policy Name:	Female External Urinary Catheters for Urinary Incontinence (e.g., PureWick, PrimaFit)
Effective Date:	11/20/2023

Important Information – Please Read Before Using This Policy

These services may or may not be covered by all Medica plans. Coverage is subject to requirements in applicable federal or state laws. Please refer to the member's plan document for other specific coverage information. If there is a difference between this general information and the member's plan document, the member's plan document will be used to determine coverage. With respect to Medicare, Medicaid, and other government programs, this policy will apply unless those programs require different coverage. Members may contact Medica Customer Service at the phone number listed on their member identification card to discuss their benefits more specifically. Providers with questions may call the Medica Provider Service Center toll-free at 1-800-458-5512.

Medica coverage policies are not medical advice. Members should consult with appropriate health care providers to obtain needed medical advice, care, and treatment.

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Female external urinary catheter for management of urinary incontinence is considered investigative and unproven and therefore **NOT COVERED**. There is insufficient reliable evidence in the form of high quality peer-reviewed medical literature to establish the efficacy or effects on health care outcomes.

Description

Female external urinary catheter (FEUC) is indicated for the non-invasive external collection of urine for adult patients with female anatomy who require urine management (e.g., post-operative recovery, immobility etc.).

FEUCs were developed as an alternative to indwelling urinary catheters (IUCs) and absorbent external collection devices (e.g., pads and diapers) to reduce or eliminate IUC complications and skin symptoms or damage from diapers and pads. FEUCs can be used in healthcare settings, such as hospitals and nursing homes, as well as at home.

FEUCs consist of a flexible, disposable "wick", which is attached to a continuous low-pressure pump, the urine collection system. The system utilizes suction to gently pull the urine from the external catheter into the sealed collection canister. The collected urine can then be easily emptied or replaced. The wick is disposable and replaced every 8-12 hours or if it's soiled with feces or blood.

The female external catheter is non-invasive and does not require insertion into the urethra. It works outside the body to absorb and wick urine.

FDA Approval

FEUC are Class I devices assigned product code NZU for non-sterile, non-invasive urine collection. They are regulated under 21 CFR 876.5250 and are granted exempt status from 510(k) Premarket Notification. No devices currently marketed in the U.S. have Food and Drug Administration (FDA) filings.

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PureWick (BD Bard) Urinary Collection System and PrimaFit (Stryker/Sage) External Urinary System are two examples of FEUCs.

Prior Authorization

Prior authorization is not applicable. Claims for this service are subject to retrospective review and denial of coverage, as investigative services are not eligible for reimbursement.

Coding Considerations

Use the current applicable CPT/HCPCS code(s). The following codes are included below for informational purposes only, and are subject to change without notice. Inclusion or exclusion of a code does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement.

CPT Codes

HCPC Codes

- **A6590** – External urinary catheters; disposable, with wicking material, for use with suction pump, per month
- **K1006** – Suction pump, home model, portable or stationary, electric, any type, for use with external urine management system

Original Effective Date: 11/20/2023

Re-Review Date(s):

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