

# Transanal Endoscopic Microsurgery (TEM), Surgical 41

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**Member-specific benefits take precedence over medical policy and benefits may vary across plans. Refer to the individual's benefit plan for details <sup>\*</sup>.**

### Purpose:

This policy addresses the medical necessity of Transanal Endoscopic Microsurgery (TEM).

### Description & Definitions:

**Transanal Endoscopic Microsurgery (TEM)** is a procedure in which smaller rectal lesions are removed using microsurgical instruments via the anus and rectum.

### Criteria:

**Transanal endoscopic microsurgery** is considered medically necessary for individuals with **1 or more of the following**:

- Low-risk Tis and T1 rectal carcinomas
- Adenomas (benign rectal tumors)
- Small rectal carcinoids (less than 2 cm in diameter)

**Transanal endoscopic microsurgery** is considered **not medically necessary** for any use other than those indicated in clinical criteria

### Coding:

Medically necessary with criteria:

Coding	Description
0184T	Excision of rectal tumor, transanal endoscopic microsurgical approach (ie, TEMS), including muscularis propria (ie, full thickness)

Considered Not Medically Necessary:

Coding	Description
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	None
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U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) - approved only products only.

## Document History:

### Revised Dates:

- 2021: November
- 2020: January
- 2016: March
- 2013: February

### Reviewed Dates:

- 2024: September – no changes references updated
- 2023: September
- 2022: September
- 2020: November
- 2019: November
- 2018: September
- 2017: November
- 2015: February
- 2014: March

### Effective Date:

- February 2012

## References:

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## Special Notes: \*

Medical policies can be highly technical and complex and are provided here for informational purposes. These medical policies are intended for use by health care professionals. The medical policies do not constitute medical advice or medical care. Treating health care professionals are solely responsible for diagnosis, treatment, and medical advice. Sentara Health Plan members should discuss the information in the medical policies with their treating health care professionals. Medical technology is constantly evolving, and these medical policies are subject to change without notice, although Sentara Health Plan will notify providers as required in advance of changes that could have a negative impact on benefits.

Services mean both medical and behavioral health (mental health) services and supplies unless We specifically tell You otherwise. We do not cover any services that are not listed in the Covered Services section unless required to be covered

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under state or federal laws and regulations. We do not cover any services that are not Medically Necessary. We sometimes give examples of specific services that are not covered but that does not mean that other similar services are covered. Some services are covered only if We authorize them. When We say You or Your We mean You and any of Your family members covered under the Plan. Call Member Services if You have questions.

### Keywords:

Transanal Endoscopic Microsurgery, TEM, Surgical 41, rectal microsurgery, rectal cancer, biopsy, excision, rectal tumor, muscularis propria, microsurgical approach, TEMS, Low-risk Tis, T1 rectal carcinomas, Benign rectal tumors, adenomas, Small rectal carcinoids