

Vestibular Evoked Myogenic Potential (VEMP) Testing, Medical 174

Table of Content

[Description & Definitions](#)[Criteria](#)[Document History](#)[Coding](#)[Special Notes](#)[References](#)[Keywords](#)[Effective Date](#)

11/2020

[Next Review Date](#)

2/2026

[Coverage Policy](#)

Medical 174

[Version](#)

10

All requests for authorization for the services described by this medical policy will be reviewed per Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) guidelines. These services may be authorized under individual consideration for Medicaid members under the age of 21-years if the services are judged to be medically necessary to correct or ameliorate the member's condition. Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS), Supplement B - EPSDT (Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment) Manual.*.

Description & Definitions:

Vestibular evoked myogenic potential (VEMP) testing is a noninvasive program and device used for the assessment of otolith and vestibular function by applying EMG electrodes to measure the response to stimulation of the ear with repetitive pulse or clicking sounds and vibrations.

The small letter in front of the VEMP [**cervical (cVEMP), ocular (oVEMP), triceps (tVEMP)**] indicates the muscle other than the sternocleidomastoid (SCM) that is being monitored such as the ocular, cervical, or triceps.

Criteria:

Vestibular evoked myogenic potential (cVEMP and/or oVEMP) testing is considered medically necessary for All of the following:

- A comprehensive evaluation completed (i.e., history, physical) with inconclusive of **1 or more** of the following:
 - o Audiometry
 - o Brainstem audiometry
 - o Caloric testing
 - o Electrocochleography
 - o Electronystagmography
 - o Rotational chair testing
 - o Videonystagmography
- Individual with suspected diagnosis of **1 or more** of the following:
 - o Benign positional vertigo
 - o Inferior vestibular nerve dysfunction

- Labyrinthitis
- Meniere disease
- Sensorineural hearing loss (Pre and post op cochlear implantation)
- Superior canal dehiscence syndrome (SCDS)
- Superior vestibular nerve dysfunction

Vestibular evoked myogenic potential (cVEMP and/or oVEMP) testing is considered **not medically necessary** for any use other than those indicated in clinical criteria.

Document History:

Revised Dates:

- 2025: February – Added criteria for c VEMP and oVEMP
- 2025: January – Procedure coding updated to align with changes in service authorizations.
- 2024: April
- 2023: July
- 2021: November

Reviewed Dates:

- 2023: August
- 2022: August

Effective Date:

- November 2020

Coding:

Medically necessary with criteria:

Coding	Description
92517	Vestibular evoked myogenic potential (VEMP) testing, with interpretation and report;
92518	Vestibular evoked myogenic potential (VEMP) testing, with interpretation and report; ocular
92519	Vestibular evoked myogenic potential (VEMP) testing, with interpretation and report;

Considered Not Medically Necessary:

Coding	Description
	None

U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) - approved only products only.

The preceding codes are included above for informational purposes only and may not be all inclusive. Additionally, inclusion or exclusion of a treatment, procedure, or device-code(s) does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement.

Special Notes: *

- Coverage
 - See the appropriate benefit document for specific coverage determination. Member specific benefits take precedence over medical policy.
- Application to products
 - Policy is applicable to Sentara Health Plan Virginia Medicaid products.

- Authorization requirements
 - Pre-certification by the Plan is required.
- Special Notes:
 - Medicaid
 - This medical policy express Sentara Health Plan's determination of medically necessity of services, and they are based upon a review of currently available clinical information. These policies are used when no specific guidelines for coverage are provided by the Department of Medical Assistance Services of Virginia (DMAS). Medical Policies may be superseded by state Medicaid Plan guidelines. Medical policies are not a substitute for clinical judgment or for any prior authorization requirements of the health plan. These policies are not an explanation of benefits.
 - 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.
 - The Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) covers services, products, or procedures for children, if those items are determined to be medically necessary to "correct or ameliorate" (make better) a defect, physical or mental illness, or condition (health problem) identified through routine medical screening or examination, regardless of whether coverage for the same service or support is an optional or limited service under the state plan. Children enrolled in the FAMIS Program are not eligible for all EPSDT treatment services. All requests for authorization for the services described by this medical policy will be reviewed per EPSDT guidelines. These services may be authorized under individual consideration for Medicaid members under the age of 21-years if the services are judged to be medically necessary to correct or ameliorate the member's condition. Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS), Supplement B - EPSDT (Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment) Manual.

References:

Including but not limited to: Specialty Association Guidelines; Government Regulations; Winifred S. Hayes, Inc; UpToDate; Literature Review; Specialty Advisors; National Coverage Determination (NCD); Local Coverage Determination (LCD).

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Keywords:

SHP Vestibular evoked myogenic potential, SHP Medical 174, vestibular-evoked myogenic potential, cVEMP, VEMP, superior canal dehiscence syndrome, cervical Vestibular evoked myogenic potential, cVEMP, ocular Vestibular evoked myogenic potential, oVEMP, Evoked Potential studies, triceps Vestibular evoked myogenic potential, tVEMP, vestibular test, Bithermal irrigation, monothermal irrigation, vestibular evaluation, spontaneous nystagmus test, Positional nystagmus test, Optokinetic nystagmus test, Vestibular evoked myogenic potential