

CHAMPVA POLICY MANUAL

CHAPTER: 2
SECTION: 11.5
TITLE: PHOTOPHERESIS

AUTHORITY: 38 CFR 17.270(a) and 17.272(a)

RELATED AUTHORITY: 32 CFR 199.4(b)(2) and (c)(2)

I. EFFECTIVE DATE

June 30, 1993

II. PROCEDURE CODE(S)

36522

III. DESCRIPTION

Photopheresis is a type of plasmapheresis during which white blood cells and some plasma is exposed to ultraviolet (UV) light before being returned to the patient.

IV. POLICY

A. Photopheresis is covered for the following:

1. The treatment of skin manifestations of cutaneous T-cell lymphoma (CTCL) in persons who have not been responsive to other forms of treatment.
2. The prevention of rejection in cardiac transplantation.
3. For other indications when reliable evidence supports that photopheresis is safe, and effective and comparable or superior to standard care (proven).

END OF POLICY