

CHAMPVA POLICY MANUAL

CHAPTER: 2
SECTION: 21.4
TITLE: MERETEK UBT™ BREATH TEST WITH PRANACTIN™ DIAGNOSTIC DRUG

AUTHORITY: 38 USC 1712; 38 CFR 17.270(a) and 17.272(a)

RELATED AUTHORITY: 32 CFR 1994.4(a) and (b)(2)(vii)

TRICARE POLICY MANUAL: Chapter 5, Section 2.1

I. EFFECTIVE DATE

September 17, 1996

II. PROCEDURE CODE(S)

83013, 83014

III. DESCRIPTION

The MERETEK UBT™ Breath Test with Pranactin™ Diagnostic Drug is a non-invasive, non-radioactive method for the detection of active *Helicobacter pylori* (H. pylori) infection. H. pylori infection can lead to chronic active gastritis, duodenal ulcer, gastric ulcer, and non-ulcer dyspepsia. Breath test samples are taken from the patient before and after ingestion of Pranactin™ and are then analyzed by Gas Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry at clinical laboratories.

IV. POLICY

Benefits may be approved for the MERETEK UBT™ Breath Test with Pranactin™ Diagnostic Drug for evaluation of patients 18 years of age and older with clinical signs and symptoms suggestive of active duodenal ulcer disease.

V. EXCLUSIONS

- A. Patients under the age of 18.
- B. monitoring the efficacy of antimicrobial therapies in the treatment of H. pylori infection.

END OF POLICY