

## CHAMPVA POLICY MANUAL

**CHAPTER:** 2  
**SECTION:** 3.6  
**TITLE:** HYPERTHERMIA FOR TREATMENT OF CANCER

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

**RELATED AUTHORITY:** 32 CFR 199.44(b)(2)(x), (c)(2)(viii), and (g)(15)

**TRICARE POLICY MANUAL:** Chapter 4, Section 4.6

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### I. EFFECTIVE DATE

- A. January 26, 1987
- B. November 1, 1996, for transpupillary thermotherapy

### II. PROCEDURE CODE(S)

77600-77615, **77620** (includes management during the course of therapy and follow-up care for three months after completion)

### III. DESCRIPTION

Local hyperthermia involves the use of heat to make tumors more susceptible to cancer therapy measures.

### IV. POLICY

- A. Local hyperthermia is covered when used in connection with radiation therapy for the treatment of primary or metastatic cutaneous or subcutaneous superficial malignancies.
- B. Transpupillary thermotherapy (laser hyperthermia), with chemotherapy, is covered for the treatment of retinoblastoma.

**V. EXCLUSIONS**

A. Hyperthermia for recurrent breast cancer.

B. Local hyperthermia, alone or in connection with chemotherapy, for any indication other than retinoblastoma.

|| C. Whole body hyperthermia in the treatment of cancer. ||

**\*END OF POLICY\***