

CHAMPVA POLICY MANUAL

CHAPTER: 2
SECTION: 7.6
TITLE: OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGIC SERVICES

AUTHORITY: 38 CFR 17.270(a) and 17.272(a)(43)

RELATED AUTHORITY: 32 CFR 199.4(c)(3)(iv), (g)(45), (g)(47) and 32 CFR 199.5(c)

I. EFFECTIVE DATE

- A. April 19, 1983
- B. November 23, 1983, for a helpless child.

II. PROCEDURE CODE(S)

92502-92547, 92551-92597, 92601-92617, 92700

III. DESCRIPTION

A. Otorhinolaryngology is that branch of medicine concerned with the screening, diagnosis and management of medical and surgical disorders of the ear, the upper respiratory and upper alimentary systems and related structures, and the head and neck.

B. Audiology is the discipline involved in the prevention, identification and the evaluation of hearing disorders, the selection and evaluation of hearing aids, and the rehabilitation of individuals with hearing impairment. Audiology services, including function tests, performed to provide medical diagnosis and treatment of the auditory system.

IV. POLICY

A. Otorhinolaryngology services, including audiological services, are covered only when necessary for diagnosis or treatment of a covered medical condition.

B. Diagnostic analysis of cochlear implant with programming is covered for patients under 7 years of age, (92601, 92602) and age 7 years or older with programming (92603, 92604).

C. Audiological services to determine the extent of hearing loss to qualify for speech therapy benefits are covered (see [Chapter 2, Section 30.3](#), *Speech Pathology Services*).

V. POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Audiological services must be prescribed by a physician and must be related to the diagnosis or treatment of an otherwise covered medical or surgical condition.

VI. EXCLUSIONS

- A. Examination to determine the need for hearing aids. [38 CFR 17.272(a)(43)]
- B. Computerized and static dynamic posturography.

*** END OF POLICY ***