

## CHAMPVA POLICY MANUAL

**CHAPTER:** 2  
**SECTION:** 16.11  
**TITLE:** VITAMIN B-12 INJECTIONS

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**AUTHORITY:** 38 USC 1713; 38 CFR 17.270(a) and 17.272(a)

**RELATED AUTHORITY:** 32 CFR 199.4(b)(2)(v) and 32 CFR 199.5(h)(2)(iii)

**TRICARE POLICY MANUAL:** Chapter 1, Section 11.2

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### I. EFFECTIVE DATE

January 23, 1984

### II. PROCEDURE CODE(S)

90782

### III. DESCRIPTION

Vitamin B-12 is essential to cell maturation and when deficient, results in certain characteristic anemia and neurologic disorders.

### IV. POLICY

Vitamin B-12 injections are covered only for following treatment.

1. Anemia secondary to Vitamin B-12 deficiency:
  - a. pernicious anemia;
  - b. megaloblastic anemia;
  - c. macrocytic anemia; and
  - d. fish tapeworm anemia.
2. Gastrointestinal disorders resulting in anemia:
  - a. post gastrectomy;
  - b. malabsorption syndromes such as sprue and idiopathic steatorrhea; and

- c. surgical and mechanical disorders such as small intestine resections, strictures, anastomoses and blind loop syndrome.
- 3. Neuropathies secondary to Vitamin B-12 deficiency: posterolateral sclerosis.
- 4. Neuropathies associated with pernicious anemia.
- 5. During the acute phase or exacerbation of the following:
  - a. multiple sclerosis;
  - b. trigeminal and glossopharyngeal neuralgia;
  - c. neuropathies of malnutrition and alcoholism;
  - d. tabes dorsalis;
  - e. causalgia;
  - f. postsympathectomy paresthesia;
  - g. herpes zoster;
  - h. diabetic neuropathy; or
  - i. other inflammatory neuritis not due to mechanical or traumatic etiology.

## **V. EXCEPTIONS**

Benefits are not covered for Vitamin B-12 injections to strengthen tendons or ligaments of the foot.

**\*END OF POLICY\***