Cranial Electrotherapy Stimulation is investigative and unproven, and therefore NOT COVERED. There is insufficient reliable evidence in the form of high quality peer-reviewed medical literature to establish the efficacy or effects on health care outcomes.

Note: This policy is no longer scheduled for routine review of the scientific literature.
Note: See also related Medica coverage policies: Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) Therapy and Interferential Current Stimulation.

**Description**
Cranial electrotherapy stimulation (CES) is the application of low-level pulsed electrical currents to or near the head for relief of medical and/or psychological symptoms. CES was first purported for treatment of anxiety and sleep disorders. Recently, it has been studied for use in many other areas including, but not limited to, depression, substance abuse withdrawal, premenstrual syndrome, attention deficit disorder, chronic neurogenic pain, migraine or tension headaches, and fibromyalgia. CES is administered in the clinical setting and is also marketed for home use. CES devices are available only through prescription.

**FDA Approval**
Cranial electrotherapy stimulators are Class III devices and are regulated by the FDA. Multiple CES devices have received FDA approval, including but are not limited to:
1. Alpha-Stim SCS and the Alpha Stim 100 (Electromedical Products International, Inc., Mineral Wells TX)
3. NH-2002 (New Horizon Health Care, Sandy UT)
5. CES Ultra (Neuro-Fitness, LLC, Snoqualmie, WA).

**Prior Authorization**
Prior authorization is not applicable. Claims for this service are subject to retrospective review and denial of coverage, as investigative services are not eligible for reimbursement.
Coding Considerations
Use the current applicable CPT/HCPCS code(s). The following codes are included below for informational purposes only, and are subject to change without notice. Inclusion or exclusion of a code does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement.

CPT Codes:
E1399 - Durable medical equipment, miscellaneous

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