



Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington

Clinical Review Criteria Pre Surgical Brain Mapping

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Criteria

For Medicare Members

Source	Policy
CMS Coverage Manuals	None
National Coverage Determinations (NCD)	None
Local Coverage Determinations (LCD)	None
Local Coverage Article (LCA)	None
Kaiser Permanente Medical Policy	Due to the absence of Medicare (CMS or MACs) coverage guidance, Kaiser Permanente has chosen to use their own Clinical Review Criteria, "Pre Surgical Brain Mapping" for medical necessity determinations. Refer to the Non-Medicare criteria below.

For Non-Medicare Members

Effective until May 1, 2026

Send all cases to MD for review.

Effective May 1, 2026

The use of brain mapping with quantitative EEG (qEEG) may be considered medically necessary when performed as part of presurgical planning to reduce morbidity after surgery to treat epilepsy or seizure disorders.

For quantitative EEG (qEEG) for neuropsychiatric disorders, criteria can be found on the [Biofeedback and Neurofeedback policy](#).

If requesting this service (or these services), please send the following documentation to support medical necessity:

- Last 6 months of clinical notes from requesting provider &/or specialist

The following information was used in the development of this document and is provided as background only. It is provided for historical purposes and does not necessarily reflect the most current published literature. When significant new articles are published that impact treatment option, Kaiser Permanente will review as needed. This information is not to be used as coverage criteria. Please only refer to the criteria listed above for coverage determinations.

Background

A quantitative electroencephalogram (qEEG) involves the recording of EEG signals that are processed using mathematical algorithms to produce a graphic representation of EEG data. Computer-analyzed EEG data can be

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[Back to Top](#)

displayed as topographic brain maps and can allow for frequency analyses that can be compared with a reference database) Quantitative EEG-derived data can be reviewed based on distribution, power, ratio, coherence, and cortical connectivity. Clinical use of quantitative EEG has been proposed as an adjunct in the diagnosis of neuropsychiatric disorders (eg, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, depression, posttraumatic stress disorder), neurodegenerative disorders (eg, Alzheimer disease, Parkinson disease), and mild traumatic brain injury (including postconcussive syndrome), and for predicting and monitoring treatment response to psychotropic drugs.

Applicable Codes

Considered Medically Necessary when criteria in the applicable policy statements listed above are met:

CPT® or HCPC Codes	Description
95961	Functional cortical and subcortical mapping by stimulation and/or recording of electrodes on brain surface, or of depth electrodes, to provoke seizures or identify vital brain structures; initial hour of attendance by a physician or other qualified health care professional
95962	Functional cortical and subcortical mapping by stimulation and/or recording of electrodes on brain surface, or of depth electrodes, to provoke seizures or identify vital brain structures; each additional hour of attendance by a physician or other qualified health care professional (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
95999	Unlisted neurological or neuromuscular diagnostic procedure
S8040	Topographic Brain Mapping

***Note:** Codes may not be all-inclusive. Deleted codes and codes not in effect at the time of service may not be covered.

****To verify authorization requirements for a specific code by plan type, please use the [Pre-authorization Code Check](#).**

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Date Created	Date Reviewed	Date Last Revised
12/02/2025	12/02/2025 ^{MPC} ,	12/02/2025

^{MPC} Medical Policy Committee

Revision History	Description
12/02/2025	MPC approved to adopt criteria for Presurgical Brain Mapping. Requires 60-day notice, effective date 05/1/2026.