



Clinical Review Criteria Peanut Challenge for Sensitized Infants

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Criteria

For Medicare Members

None

For Non-Medicare Members

Medical necessity review no longer required.

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

Food allergy affects 1-3% of children in developing countries, and the prevalence of food allergy has increased dramatically in the past several decades. For many years' scientists believed that delaying the introduction of allergenic foods into an infant's diet was beneficial, though more recent evidence has questioned this assumption. The "Learning Early About Peanut Allergy" (LEAP) Study, sponsored in part by FARE (Food Allergy Research and Education) and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease, hypothesized that the early introduction of peanuts into the diet of high-risk infants may prevent peanut allergy. LEAP Study design: The LEAP study enrolled 640 "high risk" infants between age 4 months and 11 months. High risk was defined as having moderate to severe eczema (persistent rash affecting > 75% of skin) and/or egg allergy since children with these problems are more likely to develop peanut allergy. All of the infants were skin tested to peanut. Those who had a strongly positive skin test (> 4 mm welt from prick test) were not allowed to continue in the study because they were assumed to have peanut allergy. The rest of the infants were randomly assigned to either consume peanut at least 3 days a week until age 5 (equivalent of 6 tsp peanut butter per week) or to avoid peanuts until age 5. Importantly, all these high-risk infants randomized to consume peanut underwent supervised oral challenge to peanut in the allergy clinic before feeding peanut at home.

Applicable Codes

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

CPT® or HCPC Codes	Description
95076	Ingestion challenge test (sequential and incremental ingestion of test items, eg, food, drug or other substance); initial 120 minutes of testing
95079	Ingestion challenge test (sequential and incremental ingestion of test items, eg, food, drug or other substance); each additional 60 minutes of testing (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
with dx of peanut allergy	

***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
09/01/2015	09/01/2015 ^{MPC} , 06/07/2016 ^{MPC} , 04/04/2017 ^{MPC} , 02/06/2018 ^{MPC} , 01/08/2019 ^{MPC} , 01/07/2020 ^{MPC} , 01/05/2021 ^{MPC} , 01/04/2022 ^{MPC} , 01/10/2023 ^{MPC} , 04/02/2024 ^{MPC}	09/01/2015

^{MPC} Medical Policy Committee

Revision History	Description
04/04/2017	Medical necessity review no longer required.