

Children's Hospital and Health System Chorus Community Health Plans Policy and Procedure

This policy applies to the following entity(s):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHW – Milwaukee | <input type="checkbox"/> CHW - Fox Valley |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHHS Foundation | <input type="checkbox"/> CHW - Surgicenter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHW – Community Services Division | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chorus Community Health Plans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Medical Group - Primary Care | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Specialty Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Medical Group - Urgent Care | <input type="checkbox"/> CHHS Corporate Departments |

Medical Utilization Management Policy

SUBJECT: CRANIAL ORTHOTIC DEVICES (MOLDING HELMETS) FOR BRACHYCEPHALY

INCLUDED PRODUCT(S):

Medicaid

BadgerCare Plus

Care4Kids Program

Individual and Family

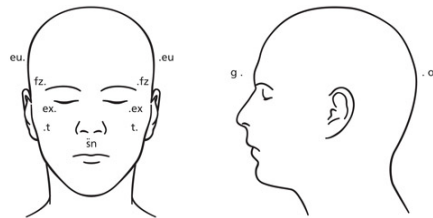
Commercial

Marketplace

PURPOSE OR DESCRIPTION:

Brachycephaly is defined as a cephalic index greater than 2 standard deviations from age- and gender-based norms, where the index is calculated as:

$$\text{Cephalic index} = \frac{\text{Head width (eu - eu)} \times 100}{\text{Head length (g - op)}}$$



Effective: 3/14

Reviewed: 4/18

Revised: 10/21

Q:\CCHP Leadership\Utilization Management Medical Policies\APPROVED MEDICAL UM POLICIES\Cranial Orthotic Devices for Brachycephaly Medical UM Policy

Developed by: CCHP Medical Director and Director Health Plan Clinical Services

POLICY:

There is insufficient evidence in the medical literature that treatment of positional brachiocephaly with cranial orthotics normalizes head shape. Nor is there evidence that any improvements in head shape that do occur result in anything beyond cosmetic differences. That is, there is no evidence that treatment results in improved clinical or functional outcomes. Therefore Chorus Community Health Plans does not consider treatment of positional brachiocephaly medically necessary.

REFERENCES:

Renske M van Wijk, Leo A van Vlimmeren, Catharina G M Groothuis-Oudshoorn, Catharina P B Van der Ploeg, Maarten J IJzerman, Magda M Boere-Boonekamp. Helmet therapy in infants with positional skull deformation: randomised controlled trial. *BMJ* 2014;348:g2741

J.F. Teichgraeber, K. Seymour-Dempsey, J.E. Baumgartner, J.J. Xia, A.L. Waller, J. Gateno. Molding helmet therapy in the treatment of brachycephaly and plagiocephaly. *J Craniofac Surg*, 15 (2004), p. 118.

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