

Zones of Transplantation

Cigna LifeSOURCE Transplant Network® contracts identify stages of transplantation as “zones”. Each zone has a specific reimbursement which may be a case rate and/or a per diem payment and fee for service rate structure. Outlined below is the typical Cigna LifeSOURCE Zone 1 through 4 definition, however, the contract Zone periods differ, thus you will need to verify the Zone periods with each contract.

Zone 1: Evaluation

The member is approved for evaluation at the transplant center to determine if he or she is an acceptable candidate for a transplant. This zone includes all diagnostic tests performed for the member and live donor, if applicable. The transplant center is expected to provide all diagnostic tests. Such tests are not to be outsourced.

Zone 1 begins when the member starts the scheduled evaluation testing. The zone ends when the member is accepted for the transplant.

Zone 2: Pre-Transplant

For solid organs, this zone includes transplant related care only for routine surveillance of the recipient as needed to maintain the recipient’s candidacy status and listing with UNOS. This includes any testing needed to determine organ function, and may include clinic visits and laboratory services. Zone 2 does not include ongoing maintenance care such as renal dialysis.

For bone marrow/stem cell transplants, Zone 2 starts after the recipient has been accepted into the transplant program, and typically ends the day prior to the initiation of mobilization or the preparative regimen (high dose chemotherapy and/or radiotherapy).

Zone 3: Transplant Event

For solid organ transplants, Zone 3 typically begins one day prior to the actual transplant procedure. Zone 3 ends when the recipient is discharged from the hospital.

For autologous bone marrow/stem cell transplants, the transplant event typically begins the first day of mobilization and ends 60 days after the date of the infusion.

For allogeneic related bone marrow/stem cell transplants, the transplant event typically begins the first day of mobilization and ends 90 days after the date of infusion.

For allogeneic unrelated bone marrow/stem cell transplants, the transplant event typically begins the first day of preparative therapy and ends 90 days after the date of infusion.

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Zone 4: Post Transplant Follow-Up Care

For solid organs, Zone 4 typically begins the day after the recipients discharge from the transplant admission and ends one year later.

For bone marrow/stem cell transplants, Zone 4 begins after the conclusion of Zone 3 and typically ends one year later.

Inclusions

Services typically included in the Cigna LifeSOURCE contracts are:

- Bone marrow/stem cell transplant procurement and all registry charges
- Diagnostic testing for the evaluation
- Donor services for live donors – including evaluation of donor, the donation surgery and 30 days of follow-up care
- Inpatient services during the transplant admission, including room and board, dialysis, pharmaceuticals, anesthesia services and supplies, and all professional services
- Organ procurement
- Outpatient pharmaceuticals and supplies for preparation of patient for transplant
- Preparative regimen for bone marrow/stem cell transplants
- Professional services

Exclusions

Services typically excluded from the Cigna LifeSOURCE contracts are:

- Home health care (with the exception Hospitals home health care may be included for outpatient bone marrow/stem cell transplants).
- Implantable devices other than cardiac assist devices
- Outpatient take home pharmaceuticals

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