



Health & Human Services

TRANSCUTANEOUS ELECTRICAL NERVE STIMULATORS (TENS)

Reference the [Look-Up Tool](#) to determine if a code requires a Service Authorization

DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT MANUAL

COVERAGE AND LIMITATION CRITERIA AND POLICIES

EFFECTIVE: March 2007

REVISED: December 2025

TRANSCUTANEOUS ELECTRICAL NERVE STIMULATORS (TENS)

Indications and limitations of coverage and medical appropriateness:

1. Required to **rent** a minimum of one month. This is considered the trial period.
 - If effective after the one-month trial rental period, the supplier can submit for purchase of the TENS unit and must provide documentation to support compliance and effective treatment.
 - All supplies are included during the rental period and will not be reimbursed separately. Includes electrodes, lead wires, batteries, and related components.
 - Conductive paste or gel allowed if needed, and only with member-owned equipment.
 - Limited to one every five years.

Supplies:

- Electrodes: two units per month.
- Lead Wires: only allowed for replacement if inoperable, with a maximum of one time per year.

Documentation Requirements:

- A prescription from a prescribing physician/practitioner.
- Physician/practitioner exam within 90 days of the service authorization start date.
- Medical documentation supporting the need.



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| Date Revised | Revisions |
|-------------------|---|
| July 2017 | Reviewed and reformatted |
| February 2020 | Add a new logo. Documentation Requirement bullet #3 changed from 60 to 90. |
| November 23, 2022 | Reviewed and unchanged. Header updated with new logo. |
| November 17, 2023 | Reviewed and reformatted. Removed CMN required for header section. |
| December 18, 2025 | Reviewed and reformatted. Removed "Service Authorization" verbiage and replaced it with "Reference the Look-Up Tool to determine if a code requires a Service Authorization" from the header section. |