

## Medical Policy



An Independent Licensee of the  
Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

### Title: Deflux Injection for Vesicoureteral Reflux (VUR)

#### Professional

Original Effective Date: September 14, 1994

Revision Date(s): November 3, 2005

Current Effective Date: February 1, 2006

#### Institutional

Original Effective Date: February 1, 2006

Revision Date(s):

Current Effective Date: February 1, 2006

#### DESCRIPTION

Vesicoureteral reflux (VUR) is the retrograde flow of urine from the bladder upward toward the kidney, most commonly seen in children. Although the exact prevalence of VUR in the general population is unknown, about one third of children with urinary tract infections (UTIs) are found to have VUR. The severity of reflux is described by a grading system, most commonly that of the International Reflux Study Group, which grades reflux from I to V.

The use of bulking agents in the treatment of VUR has been investigated for over 20 years and has been suggested as an alternative to either antibiotic or surgical therapy. In a cystoscopic procedure, bulking agents can be injected around the ureteral orifices to minimal reflux. A variety of agents have been used, ranging from collagen (Contigen, Zyderm, Zyplast), polytetrafluoroethylene paste (Teflon), polydimethylsiloxane (Macroplastique), and dextranomer/hyaluronic acid copolymer (Deflux). Deflux is the only agent specifically approved by the FDA for the treatment of VUR. The labeled indication is as follows: "Deflux is indicated for the treatment of children with vesicoureteral reflux grades II-IV."

#### POLICY

Deflux® is medically necessary for the treatment of vesicoureteral reflux.

#### CODING

##### CPT/HCPCS

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| 51715 | Endoscopic injection of implant material into the submucosal tissues of the urethra and/or bladder neck            |
| 52327 | Cystourethroscopy (including ureteral catheterization); with subureteric injection of implant material             |
| L8606 | Injectable bulking agents, synthetic implant, urinary tract 1-ml syringe, includes shipping and necessary supplies |

**DIAGNOSIS**

**These diagnoses are otherwise subject to medical policy as stated above**

- 593.70 Vesicoureteral reflux unspecified or without reflux nephropathy
- 593.71 Vesicoureteral reflux with reflux nephropathy, unilateral
- 593.72 Vesicoureteral reflux with reflux nephropathy, bilateral
- 593.73 Vesicoureteral reflux with reflux nephropathy, NOS

**REFERENCES**

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3. Tamminen-Mobius T, Brunier E, Ebel KD et al. Cessation of vesicoureteral reflux for 5 years in infants and children allocated to medical treatment. The International Reflux Study in Children. *J Urol* 1992; 148(5 pt 2):1662-6.
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5. Garin EH, Orta-Sibu N, Campos A. Primary vesicoureteral reflux in childhood. *Adv Pediatr* 2002; 49:341-57.
6. Elder JS, Peters CA, Arant BS et al. Report on the Management of Primary Vesicoureteral Reflux in Children. Baltimore, American Urological Association, 1997.
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8. Capozza N, Caione P. Dextranomer/hyaluronic acid copolymer implantation for vesico-ureteral reflux: a randomized comparison with antibiotic prophylaxis. *J Pediatr* 2002; 140(2):230-4.
9. Oswald J, Riccabona M, Lusuardi L et al. Prospective comparison and 1-year follow-up of a single endoscopic subureteral polydimethylsiloxane versus dextranomer/hyaluronic acid copolymer injection for treatment of vesicoureteral reflux in children. *Urology* 2002; 60(5):894-8.
10. Lavelle MT, Conlin MJ, Skoog SJ. Subureteral injection of Deflux for correction of reflux: analysis of factors predicting success. *Urology* 2005; 65(3):564-7.
11. Capozza N, Lais A, Nappo S et al. The role of endoscopic treatment of vesicoureteral reflux: a 17-year experience. *J Urol* 2004; 172(4 pt 2):1626-9.

**Government Agency; Medical Society; and Other Authoritative Publications**

1. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas Urology Liaison Committee meeting, August 24, 2005 (see Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas Newsletter, Blue Shield Report. MAC-03-05).

2. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas Medical Advisory Committee meeting, November 3, 2005 (see Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas Newsletter, Blue Shield Report. MAC-03-05).