



NHS MEDICAL POLICY

Laser removal of vascular hamartomas (port wine stain birthmarks) Procedure 2015-007

Laser removal of vascular hamartomas (port wine stain birthmarks) may be indicated when **ONE** of the following is present:

1	The provider documented that the vascular hamartoma (port wine stain birthmark) is causing functional impairment due to potential or actual compromise of vital structures (e.g., nose, eyes, ears, lips, tongue or larynx).
2	The provider documented that the vascular hamartoma (port wine stain birthmark) involves the eyelids or periorbital tissue and results in impaired vision or strabismus.
3	The provider documented that the vascular hamartoma (port wine stain birthmark) results in auditory impairment or secondary speech delay (lesions located on or around the ear).
4	The provider documented that the vascular hamartoma (port wine stain birthmark) is symptomatic (e.g., bleeding, painful, ulcerated, prior infection). <i>Note: The natural history of port wine stains is to become darker and thicker over a person's lifetime. Darkening and thickening are not symptoms requiring removal.</i>

SOURCES

Kelly, KM, Current Treatment Options for Port Wine Stain Birthmarks, Photodiagnosis Photodyn Ther. 2007 Sep; 4(3): 147–148.

Kelly KM, Choi B, McFarlane S, Motosue A, Jung B, Khan MH, Ramirez-San-Juan JC, Nelson JS. Description and analysis of treatments for port wine stain birthmarks. Arch Facial Plas Surg. 2005;7:287–294.

Shirley MD, et al, Sturge–Weber Syndrome and Port-Wine Stains Caused by Somatic Mutation in GNAQ, N Engl J Med. 2013 May 23; 368(21): 1971–1979. Published online 2013 May 8.

CODE REFERENCE (This may not be a comprehensive list of codes to apply to this policy.)

CPT: 17106, 17107, 17108

ICD 9: 757.32 Vascular hamartomas

POLICY HISTORY/REVISION INFORMATION

Date	Action/Description
06/16/2016	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
06/14/2017	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
06/13/2018	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
06/12/2019	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
06/11/2020	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
06/11/2021	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
06/10/2022	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
05/26/2023	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee
05/20/2024	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee
03/24/2025	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee
03/24/2025	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee