

CHAPTER 8
SECTION 12.1

WIGS OR HAIRPIECE

Issue Date: April 19, 1983

Authority: Defense Appropriation Act, Fiscal Year 1983 and [32 CFR 199.4\(g\)\(41\)](#)

I. PROCEDURE CODE

09977

II. DESCRIPTION

The Defense Appropriation Act for fiscal year 1982 and the Continuing Resolution for fiscal year 1983 authorizes coverage of a wig or hairpiece when hair loss occurs as a result of treatment of a malignant disease.

III. POLICY

A. TRICARE will provide coverage for one wig or hairpiece for a beneficiary who has experienced hair loss as a result of the treatment of a malignant disease.

B. Only one wig or hairpiece will be covered in the beneficiary's lifetime. This will be provided only if the beneficiary has not previously received a wig or hairpiece through the United States Government (for example, the Veterans Administration).

IV. POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

A. Claims documentation. Claims must be supported by the following documentation:

1. A statement from the attending physician certifying that alopecia has resulted from treatment of a malignant disease; and

2. A statement from the beneficiary (or sponsor) certifying that a wig or hairpiece has not previously been obtained through the United States Government.

B. Allowable Charge. Effective January 17, 1992, the allowable charge may not exceed \$750 per wig or hairpiece. If the wig or hairpiece purchased by the beneficiary exceeds this maximum amount, TRICARE can only cost-share up to the allowable amount.

V. EXCLUSIONS

A. Alopecia resulting from conditions other than treatment of malignant disease.

B. Maintenance, wig or hairpiece supplies, or replacement of the wig or hairpiece.

C. Hair transplants or any other surgical procedure involving the attachment of hair or a wig hairpiece to the scalp.

D. Any diagnostic or therapeutic method or supply intended to encourage hair regrowth.

VI. EFFECTIVE DATE December 15, 1980.

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