

## Electronystagmography and Videonystagmography Services

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### Disclaimer

Highmark Health Options medical policy is intended to serve only as a general reference resource regarding coverage for the services described. This policy does not constitute medical advice and is not intended to govern or otherwise influence medical decisions.

### POLICY STATEMENT

Electronystagmography (ENG) involves the electrical recording of involuntary eye movements. It is usually performed in the evaluation of dizziness, vertigo, or balance dysfunction. Metal electrodes are placed above, beside, and below each eye to detect eye movements.

Videonystagmography (VNG) provides vestibular examinations and performs electronystagmography without the use of electrodes. Such noninvasive video systems record, analyze, and report eye movements using video imaging technology. VNG requires the individual to wear a pair of infrared goggles and allows recording of actual video images of eye movement in real time.

### DEFINITIONS

**Highmark Health Options (HHO)** – Managed care organization serving vulnerable populations that have complex needs and qualify for Medicaid. Highmark Health Options members include individuals and families with low income, expecting mothers, children, and people with disabilities. Members pay nothing to very little for their health coverage. Highmark Health Options currently serves Delaware Medicaid: Delaware Healthy Children Program (DHCP) and Diamond State Health Plan and Health Plan Plus members.

### POLICY POSITION

Vestibular function testing using ENG and VNG testing batteries, caloric testing, or rotational chair testing may be considered medically necessary when **ALL** the following conditions have been met:

- The patient has symptoms of a vestibular disorder (e.g., dizziness, vertigo, imbalance); and
- A clinical evaluation, including maneuvers such as the Dix-Hallpike test if indicated, has failed to identify the cause of the symptoms.

Vestibular function testing for the assessment of typical benign paroxysmal positional vertigo that can be diagnosed clinically is considered not medically necessary.

Repeat vestibular function testing when treatment resolves symptoms is considered not medically necessary.

Vestibular function testing for any other condition is considered not medically necessary.

When placement of vertical electrodes is reported with any of the above listed ENG services, the charges will be combined and only the ENG services(s) will be paid. When reported alone, placement of vertical electrodes will be denied as a non-covered service.

### ELIGIBLE PROCEDURE CODES

92537	Caloric Vestibular Test With Recording, Bilateral; Bithermal (ie, One Warm And One Cool Irrigation In Each Ear For A Total Of Four Irrigations).
92538	Caloric Vestibular Test With Recording, Bilateral; Monothermal (ie, One irrigation in each ear for a total of two irrigations).
92540	Basic Vestibular Evaluation, Includes Spontaneous Nystagmus Test With Eccentric Gaze Fixation Nystagmus, With Recording, Positional Nystagmus Test Minimum Of 4 Positions With Recording Optokinetic Nystagmus Test, Bidirectional Foveal And Peripheral Stimulation, With Recording, And Oscillating Tracking Test With Recording.
92541	Spontaneous Nystagmus Test, Including Gaze And Fixation Nystagmus, With Recording.
92542	Positional Nystagmus Test, Minimum Of 4 Positions, With Recording.
92544	Optokinetic Nystagmus Test, Bidirectional, Foveal Or Peripheral Stimulation, With Recording.
92545	Oscillating Tracking Test, With Recording.
92546	Sinusoidal Vertical Axis Rotational Testing.
92547	Use Of Vertical Electrodes (list Separately In Addition To Code For Primary Procedure).
92700	Unlisted Otorhinolaryngological Service Or Procedure.

### NONCOVERED PROCEDURE CODES

92517	Vestibular Evoked Myogenic Potential (vemp) Testing, With Interpretation And Report; Cervical (cvemp).
92518	Vestibular Evoked Myogenic Potential (vemp) Testing, With Interpretation And Report; Ocular (ovemp).
92519	Vestibular Evoked Myogenic Potential (vemp) Testing, With Interpretation And Report; Cervical (cvemp) And Ocular (ovemp).

### ELIGIBLE DIAGNOSIS CODES

H81.01	H81.02	H81.03	H81.11	H81.12
H81.13	H81.21	H81.22	H81.23	H81.311

H81.312	H81.313	H81.391	H81.392	H81.393
H81.4	H81.8X1	H81.8X2	X81.8X3	H81.91
H81.92	H81.93	H82.1	H82.2	H82.3
H83.01	H83.02	H83.03	H83.11	H83.12
H83.13	H83.2X1	H83.2X2	H83.2X3	H83.8X1
H83.8X2	H83.8X3	H83.91	H83.92	H83.93
R26.0	R26.1	R26.9	R26.81	R26.89
R42				

### NONCOVERED SERVICES

Vestibular evoked myogenic potential (VEMP) tests are considered experimental/investigational and therefore noncovered as their effectiveness cannot be established based on the review of published peer reviewed literature.

### References

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