

Coverage of any medical intervention discussed in a Prevea360 Health Plan medical policy is subject to the limitations and exclusions outlined in the member's benefit certificate or summary plan description (SPD) and applicable state and/or federal laws.

**Therapeutic Apheresis (TA) –
Plasmapheresis, Plasma Exchange**

MP9627

Covered Service: Yes

**Prior Authorization
Required:** No

**Additional
Information:** See [Extracorporeal Photophoresis \(Photochemotherapy\)
MP9558](#) for additional information

The criteria in this policy do not apply to those devices which have been granted a humanitarian device exemption (HDE) by the FDA, which are considered medically necessary when all FDA-required criteria are met.

For a current list of HDE approved devices, refer to the FDA HDE database at: [Listing of CDRH Humanitarian Device Exemptions | FDA](#)

Prevea360 Health Plan Medical Policy:

Extracorporeal Column Immunoabsorption Apheresis

- 1.0 Therapeutic aphaeresis (TA) employing extracorporeal immunoabsorption (ECI) **does not require** prior authorization and is considered medically necessary for **ANY** of the following indications:
- 1.1 Acute inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (Guillain-Barré syndrome, acute) primary treatment
 - 1.2 Chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyradiculoneuropathy (CIDP)
 - 1.3 Cryoglobulinemia, severe/symptomatic
 - 1.4 Dilated idiopathic cardiomyopathy, NYHA II-IV
 - 1.5 Encephalitis associated with N-methyl D aspartate receptor antibodies
 - 1.6 Focal segmental glomerulosclerosis, recurrent in kidney transplant
 - 1.7 Multiple sclerosis, acute attack/relapse
 - 1.8 Myasthenia gravis, acute/short term and long term treatment
 - 1.9 Neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorders, acute attack or relapse (Devic's syndrome)

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- 1.10 Renal transplantation, ABO incompatible
 - 1.10.1 Antibody-mediated rejection
 - 1.10.2 Desensitizations, living donor
- 1.11 Voltage-gated potassium channel antibody-related diseases
- 2.0 TA employing ECI is experimental and investigational, and therefore not medically necessary for **ALL** other indications including but not limited to treatment for:
 - 2.1 Coagulation factor inhibitors, alloantibody or autoantibody
 - 2.2 Multiple sclerosis, chronic
 - 2.3 Atopic (neuro) dermatitis (atopic eczema), recalcitrant
 - 2.4 Immune thrombocytopenia, refractory
 - 2.5 Paraneoplastic neurologic syndromes
 - 2.6 Paraproteinemic demyelinating polyneuropathies, IgG/IgA/IgM
 - 2.7 Pemphigus vulgaris, severe
 - 2.8 Thrombotic microangiopathy, infection associated: Shiga toxin-mediated (STEC-HUS)
 - 2.9 Renal transplantation, ABO compatible
 - 2.9.1 Desensitization, deceased donor
- 3.0 The experimental and investigational determination does not apply to HDE approved devices. HDE approved devices are covered for the following:
 - 3.1 Excorim® Immunoabsorption System (H970004) for the treatment of individuals with hemophilia A and have Factor VIII or Factor IX inhibitor titers above 10 BU/ml.

Extracorporeal Low-Density Lipoprotein Apheresis

- 4.0 TA employing Extracorporeal low-density lipoprotein apheresis **does not require** prior authorization and is considered medically necessary for the treatment of **ANY** of the following:
 - 4.1 Familial hypercholesterolemia, refractory, either homozygous or heterozygous
 - 4.2 Lipoprotein (a) hyperlipoproteinemia
 - 4.3 Peripheral vascular disease
 - 4.4 Phytanic acid storage disease (Refsum's disease)
- 5.0 TA employing extracorporeal low-density lipoprotein apheresis is considered experimental and investigational, and therefore not medically necessary for **ALL** other indications, including but not limited to:

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- 5.1 Hypertriglyceridemic pancreatitis, severe, including prevention of relapse
- 5.2 Steroid-resistant focal segmental glomerulosclerosis in native kidney, recurrent in kidney transplant
- 5.3 Sudden sensorineural hearing loss
- 6.0 The experimental and investigational determination does not apply to devices that have been granted a Humanitarian Device Exemption by the FDA, FDA-approved HDE device is considered medically necessary when all FDA-required criteria are met.
 - 6.1 LIPOSORBER® LA-15 System (H170002) has FDA HDE approval for the treatment of adult and pediatric patients with nephrotic syndrome associated with primary focal segmental glomerulosclerosis, when standard treatment options, including corticosteroid and/or calcineurin inhibitors treatments, are unsuccessful or not well tolerated and the patient has a glomerular filtration rate (GFR) greater than or equal to 60 ml/min/1.73m² or the patient is post renal transplantation.

Standard Plasmapheresis/Plasma Exchange

- 7.0 TA employing standard plasmapheresis/plasma exchange methodology **does not require** prior authorization and is considered medically necessary for **ALL** of the following autoimmune/rheumatic indications:
 - 7.1 Hyperglobulinemias and macroglobulinemias producing hyperviscosity syndromes, including but not limited to multiple myeloma, cryoglobulinemia, and Waldenstrom's macroglobulinemia
 - 7.2 Systemic lupus erythematosus, severe complications (e.g., cerebritis, diffuse alveolar hemorrhage)
 - 7.3 Catastrophic antiphospholipid syndrome (CAPS)
- 8.0 TA employing standard plasmapheresis/plasma exchange methodology **does not require** prior authorization and is considered medically necessary for **ALL** of the following hematologic indications:
 - 8.1 Autoimmune hemolytic anemia, severe cold agglutinin disease
 - 8.2 Hyperviscosity in monoclonal gammopathies (e.g., treatment of symptoms; prophylaxis for rituximab)
 - 8.3 Acquired thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura (TTP), autoimmune
- 9.0 TA employing standard plasmapheresis/plasma exchange methodology **does not require** prior authorization and is considered medically necessary for (hepatic indications) acute liver failure requiring high volume apheresis.

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- 10.0 TA employing standard plasmapheresis/plasma exchange methodology **does not require** prior authorization and is considered medically necessary for **ALL** of the following metabolic indications:
- 10.1 Factor H autoantibodies, thrombotic microangiopathy, complement related
 - 10.2 Familial hypercholesterolemia, homozygous with small blood volume
 - 10.3 Overdose, venoms, and poisoning: mushroom poisoning
 - 10.4 Refsum's disease (phytanic acid storage disease)
 - 10.5 Thrombotic microangiopathy:
 - 10.5.1 Complement-mediated: Factor H autoantibodies
 - 10.5.2 Drug-associated: Ticlopidine
 - 10.6 Thyroid storm
 - 10.7 Vasculitis: Hepatitis B virus-associated polyarteritis nodosa (HBC-PAN)
 - 10.8 Voltage-gated potassium channel antibody related diseases
 - 10.9 Wilson's disease, fulminant hepatic failure with hemolysis
- 11.0 TA employing standard plasmapheresis/plasma exchange methodology **does not require** prior authorization and is considered medically necessary for **ALL** of the following neurological indications:
- 11.1 Acute inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (Guillain-Barre syndrome, acute), primary treatment
 - 11.2 Multiple sclerosis, acute attack/relapse
 - 11.3 Acute disseminated encephalomyelitis, steroid refractory
 - 11.4 Multiple myeloma, severe/symptomatic cryoglobulinemia
 - 11.5 Chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyradiculoneuropathy (CIDP)
 - 11.6 Paraproteinemic demyelinating polyneuropathies (e.g., IgG/IgA/IgM)
 - 11.7 Lambert-Eaton myasthenic syndrome
 - 11.8 Myasthenia gravis, acute/short term and long term treatment
 - 11.9 Neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorders, acute attack or relapse (Devic's syndrome)
 - 11.10 Pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with:
 - 11.10.1 Streptococcal infections (PANDAS), exacerbation
 - 11.11 Steroid responsive encephalopathy associated with autoimmune thyroiditis (Hashimoto's encephalopathy)

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- 11.12 Encephalitis associated with N-methyl D-aspartate receptor antibodies.
- 12.0 TA employing standard plasmapheresis/plasma exchange methodology **does not require** prior authorization and is considered medically necessary for **ALL** of the following renal (other than transplant-related) indications:
 - 12.1 Anti-glomerular basement membrane disease (Goodpasture's syndrome):
 - 12.1.1 When dialysis independent
 - 12.1.2 With diffuse alveolar hemorrhage (DAH)
 - 12.2 ANCA-associated vasculitis:
 - 12.2.1 When dialysis dependent or imminent
 - 12.2.2 With diffuse alveolar hemorrhage (DAH)
 - 12.3 Myeloma cast neuropathy
- 13.0 TA employing standard plasmapheresis/plasma exchange methodology **does not require** prior authorization and is considered medically necessary for **ALL** of the following transplantation indications:
 - 13.1 Cardiac transplantation, desensitization
 - 13.2 Focal segmental glomerulosclerosis, recurrent, in transplanted kidney
 - 13.3 Hematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT), major ABO incompatibility (ABOi)
 - 13.4 Liver transplantation, ABO incompatible: live donor desensitization
 - 13.5 Renal transplantation, ABO compatible:
 - 13.5.1 Antibody mediated rejection
 - 13.5.2 Living donor desensitization
 - 13.6 Renal transplantation, ABO incompatible:
 - 13.6.1 Antibody mediated rejection
 - 13.6.2 Living donor desensitization
- 14.0 All other applications of TA employing standard plasmapheresis/plasma exchange are considered experimental and investigational, and therefore not medically necessary, including **ANY** of the following:
 - 14.1 Autoimmune/rheumatic indications:
 - 14.1.1 Dermatomyositis, polymyositis, or inclusion body myositis Inclusion body myositis
 - 14.1.2 Neonatal lupus, cardiac
 - 14.1.3 Pemphigus vulgaris, severe

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- 14.1.4 Progressive system sclerosis (scleroderma)
- 14.1.5 Psoriasis, disseminated pustular
- 14.1.6 Rheumatoid arthritis, refractory
- 14.1.7 Toxic epidermal necrolysis, refractory
- 14.2 Hematologic indications:
 - 14.2.1 Hemophagocytic lymphocytosis (HLA); macrophage activating syndrome
 - 14.2.2 Warm autoimmune hemolytic anemia, severe
 - 14.2.3 Coagulation factor inhibitors, alloantibody or autoantibody
 - 14.2.4 Red cell alloimmunization in pregnancy, gestational age less than 20 weeks
 - 14.2.5 Thrombocytopenic purpura (TP), other than thrombotic TP (e.g., Henoch-Schonlein purpura, post-transfusion purpura, refractory immune thrombocytopenia)
- 14.3 Hepatic indications: acute liver failure, standard plasmapheresis/plasma exchange
- 14.4 Metabolic indications:
 - 14.4.1 Atopic (neuro) dermatitis (atopic eczema), recalcitrant
 - 14.4.2 Erythropoietic protoporphyria, liver disease
 - 14.4.3 Hemolysis with elevated liver function tests and low platelet count (HELLP syndrome), antepartum or postpartum
 - 14.4.4 Progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy associated with natalizumab
 - 14.4.5 Thrombotic microangiopathy when associated with:
 - 14.4.5.1 Complement-mediated: complement factor gene mutations
 - 14.4.5.2 Coagulation mediated: *THBD*, *DGKE*, and *PLG* mutations
 - 14.4.5.3 Drug associated:
 - 14.4.5.3.1 Clopidogrel
 - 14.4.5.3.2 Gemcitabine
 - 14.4.5.3.3 Quinine
 - 14.4.5.4 Hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS) infection associated with:
 - 14.4.5.4.1. Shiga toxin-mediated (STEC-HUS), severe

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- 14.4.5.4.2. Streptococcus pneumonia-related (pHUS)
 - 14.4.5.5 Thrombocytopenia and thrombosis, heparin induced
 - 14.4.5.6 Overdose or poisoning, drug
 - 14.4.5.7 Overdose, venoms, and poisoning: all indications *other than* mushroom poisoning (e.g. envenomation)
 - 14.4.5.8 Pruritus due to hepatobiliary disease, treatment resistant
 - 14.4.5.9 Vasculitis
 - 14.4.5.9.1. Bechet's disease
 - 14.4.5.9.2. Eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis (EGPA)
 - 14.4.5.9.3. Idiopathic polyarteritis nodosa (PAN)
- 14.5 Neurological indications:
- 14.5.1 Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) or progressive systemic sclerosis
 - 14.5.2 Chronic focal encephalitis (Rasmussen's encephalitis)
 - 14.5.3 Multiple sclerosis, chronic
 - 14.5.4 Neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorders, maintenance
 - 14.5.5 Paraneoplastic neurologic syndromes
 - 14.5.6 Pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with severe Sydenham's chorea
 - 14.5.7 Stiff-person syndrome
 - 14.5.8 Functional psychotic disorders (e.g. schizophrenia)
 - 14.5.9 Paraproteinemic demyelinating polyneuropathy, chronic acquired:
 - 14.5.9.1 Multiple myeloma
 - 14.5.9.2 Anti-MAG neuropathy
 - 14.5.9.3 Multifocal motor neuropathy
- 14.6 Renal indications:
- 14.6.1 Anti-glomerular basement membrane disease (Goodpasture's syndrome); when dialysis dependent with no diffuse alveolar hemorrhage (DAH)
 - 14.6.2 Focal segmental glomerulosclerosis, steroid resistant in native kidney
 - 14.6.3 Immunoglobulin A nephropathy, chronic progressive or crescentic

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- 14.6.4 Nephrogenic systemic fibrosis
- 14.7 Transplantation indications:
 - 14.7.1 Liver transplant, ABO incompatible for either:
 - 14.7.1.1 Desensitization, deceased donor
 - 14.7.1.2 Living donor, antibody-mediated rejection or desensitization
 - 14.7.2 Lung transplantation, antibody-mediated rejection or desensitization
 - 14.7.3 Heart (Cardiac): Transplant antibody-mediated rejection, including ABO and HLA
 - 14.7.4 Renal transplant, ABO compatible, for deceased donor desensitization
 - 14.7.5 Hematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT)-associated, including thrombotic microangiopathy, or HLA desensitization, or major/minor ABO incompatibility with pure RBS aplasia
 - 14.7.6 Thrombotic microangiopathy, transplantation associated
- 14.8 Miscellaneous indications:
 - 14.8.1 Burn shock resuscitation
 - 14.8.2 Cardiomyopathy/dilated idiopathic; NYHA II-IV
 - 14.8.3 Complex regional pain syndrome
 - 14.8.4 Acute liver failure, standard plasmapheresis/plasma exchange
 - 14.8.5 Amyloidosis, systemic
 - 14.8.6 Hypertriglyceridemic pancreatitis, severe, including prevention of relapse
 - 14.8.7 POEMS syndrome (polyneuropathy, organomegaly, endocrinopathy, monoclonal gammopathy, skin changes)
 - 14.8.8 Sepsis/septic shock with multi-organ failure
 - 14.8.9 Sensorineural hearing loss, sudden
 - 14.8.10 All disorders not listed.
- 14.9 This experimental and investigational determination does not apply to devices that have been granted a Humanitarian Device Exemption by the FDA and is considered medically necessary when all of the FDA-required criteria are met.
 - 14.9.1 The Plasma Delipidation System (PDS-2™ System) (H190001) has FDA HDE approval to reduce artery atheroma in adult patients with homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia who are inadequately

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responsive to or intolerant of maximal therapy, including the latest medications or devices approved by the FDA.

	Committee/Source	Date(s)
Document Created:	Medical Policy Committee/Health Services Division	February 15, 2023
Revised:	Medical Policy Committee/Health Services Division	January 17, 2024
	Medical Policy Committee/Health Services Division	February 21, 2024
Reviewed:	Medical Policy Committee/Health Services Division	January 17, 2024
	Medical Policy Committee/Health Services Division	February 21, 2024

Published: 03/01/2024

Effective: 03/01/2024