

Policy Number: CP-IFP22-025A

Effective Date: January 1, 2024

DME: Scalp Hair Prosthesis (Wigs)

The purpose of this policy is to provide clarity and specificity for coverage for DME: Scalp Hair Prosthesis (Wigs). Coverage is available for wigs for alopecia areata, as required by MN Statute 62A.28, in addition to the conditions of alopecia totalis, alopecia universalis, and for hair loss due to chemotherapy or radiation of the head and neck. Wigs may also be referred to as scalp hair prosthesis or cranial scalp prosthesis.

DISCLAIMER

Coverage Policies are developed to assist in identifying coverage for UCare benefits under UCare’s health plans. They are intended to serve only as a general reference regarding UCare’s administration of health benefits and are not intended to address all issues related to coverage for health services provided to UCare members.

These services may or may not be covered by all UCare products (refer to product section of individual coverage policy for product-specific detail). Providers are encouraged to have their UCare patient refer to their UCare plan documents (Evidence of Coverage/Member Handbook/Member Contract) for specific coverage information. If there is a conflict between a coverage policy and the UCare plan documents, the UCare plan documents prevail.

Coverage Policies do not constitute medical advice. Providers are responsible for submission of accurate and compliant claims.

PRODUCT SUMMARY

This coverage policy applies to the following UCare products:

UCare product	Applies to
UCare Individual & Family Plans (IFP), UCare IFP with M Health Fairview	✓
UCare Medicare Plans, UCare Medicare with M Health Fairview & North Memorial Health, UCare Advocate Plus (HMO I-SNP), EssentiaCare	
UCare’s Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO) (HMO D-SNP)	
UCare Connect (SNBC)	
UCare Connect + Medicare (HMO D-SNP)	
Prepaid Medical Assistance Program (PMAP), MinnesotaCare	
Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+)	

Benefit category:

Durable Medical Equipment: Member Deductible and Coinsurance Cost Share Applies

Definitions or summary

Required coverage under *Mn Statute 62A.28 COVERAGE FOR SCALP HAIR PROSTHESES*.

Every policy, plan, certificate, or contract referred to in subdivision 1 issued or renewed after August 1, 1987, must provide coverage for scalp hair prostheses worn for hair loss suffered as a result of alopecia areata.

The coverage required by this section is subject to the co-payment, coinsurance, deductible, and other enrollee cost-sharing requirements that apply to similar types of items under the policy, plan, certificate, or contract and may be limited to one prosthesis per benefit year.

Alopecia Areata- a condition that causes round patches of hair loss that can lead to total hair loss. It is thought to be an autoimmune condition that occurs when the immune system mistakenly attacks and destroys healthy hair follicles.

Alopecia totalis — Total loss of the hair on the scalp.

Alopecia universalis — Complete loss of hair on the scalp, face, and body.

The following type of alopecia **does not meet** the language of the mandate for coverage.

- **Androgenic alopecia** - is common for women and men. It's also known as male- or female- pattern hair loss.

Coverage policy

COVERED

- Hair prosthesis (i.e., wig) for hair loss resulting from:
 - alopecia areata
 - No dollar or hair length coverage limits
 - alopecia totalis, alopecia universalis, hair loss due to chemo and/or radiation of the head or neck
 - \$600 reimbursement limit, and 22" hair length limit
 - one hair prosthesis per member per calendar year
- A prescription from health care provider indicating alopecia areata, alopecia totalis, alopecia universalis, or hair loss is due to chemotherapy and/or radiation to the head or neck.
- Wigs can be obtained at a salon, retail store or online.
- Member may submit receipt for reimbursement under this benefit using the UCare Health Care Expense Claim Form.
- **One prosthesis (wig) per person per calendar year.**

NOT COVERED

Wigs for conditions other than in the covered section listed above include, but are not limited to:

- Androgenic alopecia
- Dermatological conditions
- Fungal infections
- Injury resulting in hair loss
- Medication
- Nutritional deficiencies
- Pregnancy

Prior authorization
Not required

Related policies and documentation	
<i>References to other policies or documentation that may be relevant to this policy</i>	
Policy Number	Policy Description
CP-IFP21-006A	Durable Medical Equipment (DME)
CP-IFP23-035A	Member Reimbursement

References and source documents
<i>Links to the UCare contracts, Center for Medicare, and Medicaid Services (CMS), MHCP, Minnesota statute and other relevant documents used to create this policy</i>
Member Documents and Information:
Member Claim Reimbursement Form) U6976A UFS
Minnesota Statute 62A.28:

Coverage policy development and revision history		
Version	Date	Note(s)
V1	April 01,2022	New policy
	Nov.30,2022	Annual review; no changes
V2	Oct. 24,2023	Annual review; added new IFP benefit of scalp hair prosthesis due to alopecia totalis, alopecia universalis, chemotherapy, radiation to the health or neck