

Sample Letter of Medical Necessity

Following is a sample Letter of Medical Necessity, to be included with claim along with patient records. Items in red must be edited to indicate the specifics of the individual patient's case.

[Date]

[Payer Name]
Attn: [Contact Name]
[Address]
[City, State, ZIP Code]

Dear [Contact Name],

[Patient Name] has been diagnosed with [Diagnosis and ICD-10-CM] and will start chemotherapy treatment on [Date]. I am writing on behalf of the patient to document medical necessity for Paxman Scalp cooling therapy for the prevention of chemotherapy induced hair loss due to [Diagnosis and ICD-10-CM].

The Paxman Cooling System, is an FDA cleared device (DEN150010) and is used to reduce the likelihood of chemotherapy-induced alopecia. The treatment regimen with the Paxman Cooling system is to use it before (30 minutes prior), during the IV administration of chemotherapy, and after (90-120) minutes after chemotherapy has been discontinued). The Paxman Cooling System requires direct supervision and utilizes a patient-specific cooling cap preloaded with the number of cooling cycles that corresponds to the number of times the patient will receive chemotherapy.

[Patient Name] has been prescribed [Number] chemotherapy administrations and will require [Number] pre-loaded cooling cycles.

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses have demonstrated a statistically significant reduction in hair loss.^{1,2} The studies reviewed and reported on in the medical literature have included randomized controlled trials and; prospective single arm/historical control trials. The vast majority of these peer reviewed articles have demonstrated a positive effect of scalp hypothermia in reducing hair loss; no matter the type of scalp hypothermia system used. When combining these studies for meta-analysis purposes, the effect is statistically significant, favoring scalp hypothermia's ability to minimize hair loss. Reducing the incidence of hair loss during chemotherapy for cancer minimizes hair loss's effect on a patient's anxiety, distress, depression, negative body image, and; lowered self-esteem.^{3,4} Thus minimizing hair loss is an important consideration in light of the patient's condition. Recently there were two US prospective studies that also demonstrated the beneficial effects of scalp cooling.^{4,5}

Please contact us with any questions at [Provider Contact Details]

Regards,
[Name & Title]

¹Shin H et al. Efficacy of interventions for prevention of chemotherapy-induced alopecia: A systematic review and meta-analysis. International Journal of Cancer 2014;136:E442-E454

²Poder TG et al. Effectiveness of scalp cooling in chemotherapy. Bulletin du Cancer 2011;98(9):1119-1129.

³Hesketh PJ et al. Chemotherapy-induced alopecia: psychosocial impact and therapeutic approaches. Support Care Cancer 2004;12:543-549.

⁴Lemieux J et al Chemotherapy-induced alopecia and effects on quality of life among women with breast cancer: a literature review. Psycho-Oncology 2008;17:317-328.

⁵Hope S Rugo MD et al: Association between use of Scalp cooling Device and alopecia after chemotherapy for breast cancer. JAMA.2017;217(6):606-614.