

# Neutron Beam Policy

## Purpose

To describe the CVS Radiation Oncology External Policy for Neutron Beam therapy.

## Scope

The scope of this document applies to CVS Health clients who have signed up for the CVS Radiation Oncology program under CVS Health Solutions. This document includes the external policy details for the Neutron Beam policy.

## Background

CVS Health considers the use of Neutron Beam Therapy medically necessary for some tumor types. Neutron beam therapy (NBT) uses neutrons (neutral charged subatomic particles) to kill off cancer cells. Neutron beam therapy has been employed mainly for the treatment of the salivary gland cancers.

## Policy

CVS Health considers neutron beam therapy medically necessary for the treatment of any of the following salivary gland tumors:

- a. Inoperable or unresectable tumor; *or*
- b. Locally advanced tumor especially in persons with gross residual disease

CVS Health considers neutron beam therapy experimental and investigational for all other indications including malignancies listed below (not an all-inclusive list) because its effectiveness for these indications has not been established:

- Colon cancer
- Dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans
- Ghost cell odontogenic carcinoma
- Glioma
- Kidney cancer
- Laryngeal cancer
- Lung cancer
- Pancreatic cancer
- Prostate cancer
- Rectal cancer
- Soft tissue sarcoma

## References

The Neutron Beam policy is based on the following references:

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