

## The Department of Vermont Health Access Medical Policy

**Subject: Home Uterine Activity Monitor**

**Last Review:** 4/12/11

**Revision 3:**

**Revision 2:**

**Revision 1:**

**Original Effective:** 2004

### Description of Service or Procedure

According to the Food and Drug Administration:

The home uterine activity monitor (HUAM) is an electronic system for at-home antepartum measurement of uterine contractions, data transmission by telephone to a clinical setting, and for data receive/display of the uterine contraction data at the clinic. The HUAM system comprises a tocotransducer, an at-home recorder, a modem, and a data receive/process/display computer/monitor.

The HUAM is a prescription-use only system that is indicated for use, in conjunction with standard high risk care, for the daily at-home measurement of uterine activity in pregnancies  $\geq 24$  weeks gestation for women with a history of previous preterm birth. Uterine activity is displayed at a remote location to aid in the early detection of pre-term labor. (p. 2)

### Disclaimer

Coverage is limited to that outlined in Medicaid Rule that pertains to the beneficiary's aid category. Prior Authorization (PA) is only valid if the beneficiary is eligible for the applicable item or service on the date of service.

### Medicaid Rule

[7102.2](#) Prior Authorization Determination

[7103](#) Medical Necessity

Medicaid Rules can be found at <http://humanservices.vermont.gov/on-line-rules>



## **Coverage Position**

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A home uterine activity monitor may be covered for beneficiaries:

- When the home uterine activity monitor is prescribed by a licensed medical provider enrolled in the VT Medicaid program who is knowledgeable in the use of home uterine activity monitoring and who provides medical care to the beneficiary AND
- Who meet the clinical guidelines below.

## **Coverage Guidelines**

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Coverage of Home Uterine Activity Monitoring is considered appropriate for beneficiaries who:

- Are at least 24 and up to 36 weeks gestation **AND**
- Have a history of preterm birth and or have preterm labor who are currently being followed by a physician who is knowledgeable in the management of patients with a history of preterm birth. **OR** Has documented risk factors that increase the risk of preterm birth including but not limited to: Placenta previa, uterine anomalies, incompetent cervix, multiple gestation, triplets, complicated twin, or high-order multifetal pregnancy **AND**
- Maintains daily contact with a nurse in the prescribing physician's office and have continued education on the signs and symptoms of preterm labor. **AND**
- Completes one or two one hour monitoring sessions per day, with data transmission to the medical provider immediately following each session. **AND**
- Tocolytic agents and other conventional methods to arrest progression of preterm labor has failed,

## **Clinical guidelines for repeat service or procedure**

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Clinical criteria must be met for medical necessity.

## **Type of service or procedure not covered (this list may not be all inclusive)**

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- Non FDA approved devices
- Home uterine activity monitors without associated nursing services.
- Prophylactic use of a HUAM has not been studied in high-order multiple gestations.

## **References**

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American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. (2009). Multiple gestation: complicated twin, triplet, and high-order multifetal pregnancy. National Guideline Clearinghouse Guideline Summary NGC-5717. Retrieved February 22, 2011, from:

<http://www.guideline.gov/content.aspx?id=10937&search=home+uterine+activity+monitoring>

Dyson, D. C., Danbe, K. H., Bamber, J. A., Crites, Y. M., Field, D. R, Maier, J. A, et al. Monitoring women at risk for preterm labor. *The New England Journal of Medicine*, 338(1). Retrieved February 22, 2011, from: <http://www.nejm.org/doi/pdf/10.1056/NEJM199801013380103>

Food and Drug Administration. (2001). *Final guidance for industry and FDA reviewers: Class II Special Controls Guidance for Home Uterine Activity Monitors*. Retrieved February 22, 2011, from: <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/MedicalDevices/DeviceRegulationandGuidance/GuidanceDocuments/UCM073596.pdf>

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Kalchbrenner, M. A. (2001). Clinical Review of home uterine activity monitoring (HUAM). *Journal of the American Osteopathic Association*, 101(2). Retrieved January 11, 2011, from: [http://www.jaoa.org/cgi/reprint/101/2\\_suppl/18S.pdf](http://www.jaoa.org/cgi/reprint/101/2_suppl/18S.pdf)

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