

# Children's Hospital and Health System Children's Community Health Plan Policy and Procedure

This policy applies to the following entity(s):

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHW – Milwaukee                         | <input type="checkbox"/> CHW - Fox Valley                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHHS Foundation                         | <input type="checkbox"/> CHW - Surgicenter                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHW – Community Services Division       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children's Community Health Plan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Medical Group - Primary Care | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Specialty Group                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Medical Group - Urgent Care  | <input type="checkbox"/> CHHS Corporate Departments                  |

## Medical Utilization Management Policy

### SUBJECT: CRANIAL ORTHOTIC MOLDING HELMETS FOR BRACHYCEPHALY

**INCLUDED PRODUCT(S):**

**Medicaid**

BadgerCare Plus

Care4Kids Program

**Commercial**

Together with CCHP

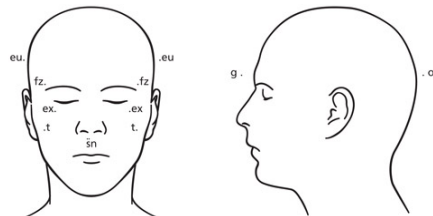
**Marketplace**

Together with CCHP

**PURPOSE OR DESCRIPTION:**

Brachycephaly is defined as a cephalic index greater than 2 standard deviations from age- and gender-based norms, where the index is calculated as:

$$\text{Cephalic index} = \frac{\text{Head width (eu - eu)} \times 100}{\text{Head length (g - op)}}$$



Supersedes: None

Effective 3/2014

Reviewed:

Revised

Q:/CCHP Leadership/ Medical Utilization Management Policy/Approved UM Med Policies/Facet joint injections

Developed by: CCHP Medical Director and Director Health Plan Clinical Services

**POLICY:**

There is insufficient evidence in the medical literature that treatment of positional brachiocephaly with cranial orthotics normalizes head shape. Nor is there evidence that any improvements in head shape that do occur result in anything beyond cosmetic differences. That is, there is no evidence that treatment results in improved clinical or functional outcomes. Therefore Children's Community Health Plan does not consider treatment of positional brachiocephaly medically necessary.

**REFERENCES:**

Renske M van Wijk, Leo A van Vlimmeren, Catharina G M Groothuis-Oudshoorn, Catharina P B Van der Ploeg, Maarten J IJzerman, Magda M Boere-Boonekamp. Helmet therapy in infants with positional skull deformation: randomised controlled trial. *BMJ* 2014;348:g2741

J.F. Teichgraeber, K. Seymour-Dempsey, J.E. Baumgartner, J.J. Xia, A.L. Waller, J. Gateno. Molding helmet therapy in the treatment of brachycephaly and plagiocephaly. *J Craniofac Surg*, 15 (2004), p. 118.

Effective: 3/2014

Reviewed:

Revised:

Developed by: CCHP Medical Director and Director Health Plan Clinical Services