



Policy Number: EVH\_MP\_2500.MPC

Last Review Date: 02/19/2026

Effective Date: 03/01/2026

## EVH\_MP\_2500.MPC Continuous Home Pulse Oximetry

Maryland Physicians Care considers **Continuous Home Pulse Oximetry** medically necessary for the following indications:

- Members on prolonged home mechanical ventilation when the ventilator does not have a built-in pulse oximeter <sup>(1,2)</sup>
- Home Care members with tracheostomies <sup>(1,2)</sup>
- Children prescribed home oxygen therapy for medical conditions complicated by severe chronic hypoxemia, including any **ONE** of the following <sup>(3)</sup>:
  - Bronchopulmonary dysplasia
  - Cystic fibrosis
  - Pulmonary hypertension without congenital heart disease
  - Interstitial lung disease

AND when **ALL** the following criteria are met:

- The recipient would otherwise require hospitalization solely for the purpose of continuous monitoring
- The results are reliable in the home setting
- The member's record documents that the oximeter is preset, self-sealed, and cannot be adjusted by the member
- The device is able to provide a printout that documents an adequate number of sampling hours ( $\geq 4$  hours should be recorded), percent of oxygen saturation, and an aggregate of the results
  - This information must be available if requested)
- A trained caregiver is available to respond to changes in oxygen saturation

### Limitations

Continuous pulse oximetry performed in the home is not considered medically necessary for **ANY** of the following:

- As part of an individual's asthma management <sup>(4)</sup>
- Management of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) <sup>(4)</sup>
- Management of a sleep disorder (e.g., sleep apnea), except when used for initial screening <sup>(5,6)</sup>

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### Codes

HCPCS Codes	
Code	Description
A4606	Oxygen probe for use with oximeter device, replacement
E0445	Oximeter device for measuring blood oxygen levels noninvasively
Not Covered ICD-10 Codes	
G47.33	Obstructive sleep apnea (adult) (pediatric)
G47.34	Idiopathic sleep related nonobstructive alveolar hypoventilation
G47.36	Sleep related hypoventilation in conditions classified elsewhere
G47.8	Other sleep disorders
G47.9	Sleep disorder, unspecified
J44.9	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, unspecified
J45.909	Unspecified asthma, uncomplicated
J45.990	Exercise induced bronchospasm
J45.991	Cough variant asthma
J45.998	Other asthma
Z13.83	Encounter for screening for respiratory disorder NEC

### Policy History

Date	Summary
February 19, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>This guideline was renumbered from MP.006.MPC Continuous Home Pulse Oximetry</li><li>Annual Review - Replaced patient with member throughout; updated Indications and Limitations; updated description of ICD-10 codes J44.9 and J45.909 and listed out range codes J45.990 through J45.998; added Policy History Log; replaced outdated References with updated References</li></ul>

### References

1. Sterni LM, Collaco JM, Baker CD, et al. An official American thoracic society clinical practice guideline: Pediatric chronic home invasive ventilation. Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 2016;193(8):e16-e35. doi:10.1164/rccm.201602-0276ST

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2. Janssens JP, Michel F, Schwarz EI, et al. Long-Term Mechanical Ventilation: Recommendations of the Swiss Society of Pulmonology. 2021;99(10):867-902. doi:10.1159/000510086
3. Hayes D, Wilson KC, Krivchenia K, et al. Home oxygen therapy for children an official American Thoracic Society clinical practice guideline. Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 2019;199(3):E5-E23. doi:10.1164/rccm.201812-2276ST
4. Khor YH, Krishnan JA, Poberezhets V, et al. Assessment of Home-based Monitoring in Adults with Chronic Lung Disease An Official American Thoracic Society Research Statement. Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 2025;211(2):174-193. doi:10.1164/rccm.202410-2080ST
5. da Silva Dantas EL, Stelzer FG, Bernardo WM, Eckeli AL. Oximetry-based devices in diagnosis of obstructive sleep apnea: A systematic review and meta-analysis. Sleep Med Rev. 2025;83. doi:10.1016/j.smrv.2025.102139
6. Evans HJ, Gibson NA, Bennett J, et al. British Thoracic Society guideline for diagnosing and monitoring paediatric sleep-disordered breathing. Published online 2023. doi:10.1136/thoraxjnl-2022-218938

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