



**BlueCross BlueShield
of Illinois**

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois Provider Manual

HMO Scope of Benefits Section

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois, a Division of Health Care Service Corporation, a Mutual Legal Reserve Company,
an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Lithotripsy (Percutaneous and Extracorporeal)

Benefit

Electroshock wave lithotripsy, when performed by percutaneous or extracorporeal method for renal stones, is a covered benefit.

Interpretation

Electroshock wave lithotripsy focuses acoustic shock waves on renal calculi to pulverize them into small particles without damaging the surrounding tissue. The particles are then excreted.

The percutaneous method involves making a percutaneous nephrostomy and inserting a catheter either into the renal pelvis or down the ureter into the bladder. An ultrasonic wand delivers an acoustic shock to disintegrate the stone. This procedure may be performed in two stages, on different days.

The extracorporeal method involves the use of sound waves transmitted through water. The member is placed in a bathtub-type device or on a specialized waterbed. This method is used for stones in the renal calyx, renal pelvis, and upper third of the ureter when stones are at least 3 millimeters in diameter.

Paid by	Inpatient and/or Outpatient Surgical Facility Charges	HMO
	Professional Charges	IPA