Children’s Hospital and Health System
Children’s Community Health Plan Policy and Procedure

This policy applies to the following entity(s):

- CHW – Milwaukee
- CHHS Foundation
- CHW – Community Services Division
- Children’s Medical Group - Primary Care
- Children’s Medical Group - Urgent Care
- CHW - Fox Valley
- CHW - Surgicenter
- Children’s Community Health Plan
- Children’s Specialty Group
- 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:

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

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:**
