
Item: **Novocure (formerly known as Optune)**

Effective: 6/1/26, 8/18

Covered by: DME Benefit

Reviewed: 06/26, 10/20, 06/19, 8/18

Category: DME Prosthetic
 Orthotic Medical Supply

Reviewed/Revised: 06/26, 12/19, 06/19, 8/18

Review Responsibility: DME Manager

Clinical Criteria:

Novocure treatment is covered for all members with a DME benefit when the following Kaiser Permanente criteria are met:

A. Initial Coverage Criteria:

Use of the Novocure device (formerly known as Optune) to provide electric tumor treating fields therapy (TTFT) for Glioblastoma Multiforme (GBM) may be considered medically necessary when ALL of the following Kaiser Permanente criteria are met:

1. The member has a histologically confirmed (World Health Organization (WHO) grade IV astrocytoma), newly diagnosed, supratentorial GBM AND
2. The member has received initial treatment with maximal debulking surgery (when feasible), followed by chemotherapy and radiotherapy AND
3. Tumor treating fields therapy is initiated within 7 weeks from the last dose of concomitant chemotherapy or radiotherapy, whichever is later, AND
4. The member has no evidence of progression following chemoradiotherapy by Response Assessment in Neuro-Oncology ([RANO](#)) criteria, AND,
5. The member has a Karnofsky Performance Score (KPS) of at least 70 AND
6. Documentation that the member is instructed/ expected to use TTFT for an average of 18 hours per day AND
7. TTFT is ordered by an Oncologist.

B. Continued Coverage Criteria:

Continuation of use of the Novocure device (formerly known as Optune) to provide electric tumor treating fields therapy (TTFT) for Glioblastoma Multiforme (GBM) beyond the first 90 days may be authorized when ALL of the following Kaiser Permanente criteria are met:

1. The treating practitioner conducted a clinical reevaluation and documented that:
 - a. The member is benefitting from TTFT AND
 - b. The Karnofsky Performance Status score is 60 or higher AND
 - c. The member has been wearing the device at least 18 hours daily

C. Coverage criteria for members who are already undergoing treatment with TTFT and have not been reviewed previously under KPNW coverage:

Use of the Novocure device (formerly known as Optune) to provide electric tumor treating fields therapy (TTFT) for Glioblastoma Multiforme (GBM) may be considered medically necessary when ALL of the following Kaiser Permanente criteria are met:

1. The member has a histologically confirmed (World Health Organization (WHO) grade IV astrocytoma), newly diagnosed (not recurrent), supratentorial GBM AND
2. The member has been receiving TTFT following initial maximal debulking surgery (if feasible) followed by chemotherapy/radiotherapy for histologically confirmed newly diagnosed GBM AND
3. The member had an in-person evaluation by KP oncologist who ordered TTFT and documented that:
 - a. The member is benefitting from TTFT AND
 - b. The Karnofsky Performance Status score is 60 or higher AND
 - c. The member has been wearing the device at least 18 hours daily

Comments on Application of Benefit:

1. Initial authorization is for ninety (90) days.
2. Continuation beyond the first 90 days may be extended by ninety (90) days at a time.
3. Recurrent GBM: Tumor treatment field therapy (E0766) will not be covered for the treatment of recurrent glioblastoma.
4. The use of TTFT for any indications other than newly diagnosed glioblastoma will not be covered.

Line of Business KP criteria applies to:	Apply this Criteria?	If No, Link to External Criteria
Commercial (Includes Self-Funded & KPIF plans)	Yes	
Senior Advantage	No	LCD - Tumor Treatment Field Therapy (TTFT) (L34823)
OR Medicaid (OHP)	No	OHA HERC Guideline Note 155
WA Medicaid (Molina)	No	Tumor treating fields (Optune®) Washington State Health Care Authority (Not a covered benefit)

REFERENCES:

Medicare

Local Coverage Determination: L34823

Policy Article: A52711

Response to Comments: Tumor Treatment Field Therapy (TTFT) – DL34823

National Coverage Determination: n/a

Oregon Health Authority

OHA HERCH Guideline Note 155

Washington Apple Health

n/a