



Qualified Health Plans offered in North Carolina by CareSource North Carolina Co., d/b/a CareSource

MEDICAL POLICY STATEMENT North Carolina Marketplace	
Policy Name & Number	Date Effective
ProACT Adjustable Continence Therapy-NC MP-MM-1378	09/01/2025
Policy Type	
MEDICAL	

Medical Policy Statement prepared by CareSource and its affiliates are derived from literature based on and supported by clinical guidelines, nationally recognized utilization and technology assessment guidelines, other medical management industry standards, and published MCO clinical policy guidelines. Medically necessary services include, but are not limited to, those health care services or supplies that are proper and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of disease, illness, or injury and without which the patient can be expected to suffer prolonged, increased or new morbidity, impairment of function, dysfunction of a body organ or part, or significant pain and discomfort. These services meet the standards of good medical practice in the local area, are the lowest cost alternative, and are not provided mainly for the convenience of the member or provider. Medically necessary services also include those services defined in any Evidence of Coverage documents, Medical Policy Statements, Provider Manuals, Member Handbooks, and/or other policies and procedures.

Medical Policy Statements prepared by CareSource and its affiliates do not ensure an authorization or payment of services. Please refer to the plan contract (often referred to as the Evidence of Coverage) for the service(s) referenced in the Medical Policy Statement. If there is a conflict between the Medical Policy Statement and the plan contract (i.e., Evidence of Coverage), then the plan contract (i.e., Evidence of Coverage) will be the controlling document used to make the determination. According to the rules of Mental Health Parity Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA), coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of a behavioral health disorder will not be subject to any limitations that are less favorable than the limitations that apply to medical conditions as covered under this policy.

Table of Contents

A. Subject	2
B. Background	2
C. Definitions.....	2
D. Policy	2
E. Conditions of Coverage	3
F. Related Policies/Rules	3
G. Review/Revision History	3
H. References	3

A. Subject

ProACT Adjustable Continence Therapy

B. Background

Urinary incontinence is a known complication of prostate surgery, which can impact quality of life. The incidence of incontinence varies by procedure, but it is transient for most individuals. Incontinence after prostate surgery is a dynamic condition that can greatly improve in the first one to two years with conservative therapies. Conservative management may include lifestyle modification, pads, compression, catheters, and pelvic floor exercises. An estimated 5% of men whose incontinence fails to resolve undergo an additional procedure for the treatment of incontinence. Surgical management, which is usually deferred for at least 12 months post-prostatectomy, may involve adjustable balloon devices for mild stress incontinence, male slings for mild to moderate stress incontinence, and artificial urinary sphincters for severe stress incontinence.

ProACT is a minimally invasive adjustable continence therapy for stress urinary incontinence, utilizing a proprietary balloon device. Under fluoroscopic guidance, implantation instruments are advanced via transverse perineal incisions to the area of the bladder neck. The tissue is then dilated to create space for the balloon device. A balloon is inserted bilaterally and inflated with isotonic solution. Titanium ports are placed under the skin to allow for future inflation or deflation of the balloons. While the device has demonstrated efficacy in peer-reviewed medical literature, device migration requiring revision surgery or explantation has also been documented. A shared decision-making approach between physician and patient is recommended.

C. Definitions

- **Urinary Incontinence** – The involuntary leakage of urine. After prostate surgery, men can develop one or a combination of the following types of incontinence:
 - **Stress Urinary Incontinence (SUI)** – Occurs in the absence of a bladder contraction, due to inadequate urethral sphincter function, either from mechanical damage to the urethral sphincter or from physiologic effects that limit sphincter function.
 - **Urge Urinary Incontinence (UUI)** – A sudden and compelling desire to pass urine that is difficult to defer and is accompanied by involuntary leakage. UUI is typically associated with bladder outlet obstruction or detrusor overactivity.
 - **Overflow Urinary Incontinence (OUI)** – Occurs when urine is retained in the bladder due to incomplete voiding after an attempt to urinate. OUI can be caused by bladder outlet obstruction or detrusor underactivity.
 - **Mixed Urinary Incontinence** – A combination of stress urinary incontinence and urge urinary incontinence, occurs when both the bladder and urinary sphincter have impaired function.

D. Policy

- I. CareSource considers ProACT adjustable continence therapy medically necessary when **ALL** the following clinical criteria are met:

The MEDICAL Policy Statement detailed above has received due consideration as defined in the MEDICAL Policy Statement Policy and is approved.

- A. Member underwent radical prostatectomy or transurethral resection of the prostate at least 12 months prior without radiation therapy.
- B. Member has documented primary stress urinary incontinence arising from intrinsic sphincter deficiency of at least 12 months duration.
- C. Member has documentation of conservative therapy failure.
- D. Member experiences at least 3 incontinence episodes per day.
- E. Member has positive 24-hour pad weight test (at least 8-gram pad weight increase demonstrated in two 24-hour pad weight tests).

II. Limitations/Exclusions

ProACT is contraindicated in patients with any of the following:

- A. urge incontinence
- B. detrusor instability or over-activity
- C. residual volume of at least 100ml or at least 25% of the total bladder capacity after voiding
- D. active systemic or urinary tract infections
- E. history of bladder stones
- F. hemophilia or other bleeding disorders
- G. UI resulting from detrusor instability
- H. UI resulting from overactive bladder
- I. reduced bladder compliance
- J. residual urine volume exceeding 100 cubic centimeters after voiding
- K. suspected bladder cancer
- L. radiotherapy within the past 6 months

E. Conditions of Coverage

N/A

F. Related Policies/Rules

N/A

G. Review/Revision History

DATE		ACTION
Date Issued	01/18/2023	New policy.
Date Revised	02/14/2024	Annual review: editorial changes and updated references. Approved at Committee.
	02/12/2025	Annual review: updated references. Approved at Committee.
	06/04/2025	Review: removed age criteria. Approved at Committee.
Date Effective	09/01/2025	
Date Archived		

H. References

1. Angulo JC, Schönburg S, Giammò A, et al. Systematic review and meta-analysis comparing adjustable transobterator male system (ATOMS) and adjustable

The MEDICAL Policy Statement detailed above has received due consideration as defined in the MEDICAL Policy Statement Policy and is approved.

- continence therapy (ProACT) for male stress incontinence. *PLoS One*. 2019;14(12):e0225762. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0225762
2. Artificial urinary sphincter: A-0267 (AC). MCG. 29th ed draft. Updated January 25, 2025. Accessed May 8, 2025. www.careweb.careguidelines.com
3. Clemens JQ. Urinary incontinence in men. UpToDate. Updated March 6, 2024. Accessed May 6, 2025. www.uptodate.com
4. Comiter CV, Speed J. Urinary incontinence after prostate treatment. UpToDate. Updated May 16, 2024. Accessed May 6, 2025. www.uptodate.com
5. Finazzi Agro E, Gregori A, Bianchi D, et al. Efficacy and safety of adjustable balloons (ProACT) to treat male stress urinary incontinence after prostate surgery: medium and long-term follow-up data of a national multicentric retrospective study. *Neurourol Urodyn*. 2019;38(7):1979-1984. doi:10.1002/nau.24103
6. Klock JA, Palacios AR, Leslie SW, et al. Artificial urinary sphincters and adjustable dual-balloon continence therapy in men. StatPearls Publishing. Updated November 2, 2023. Accessed May 6, 2025. www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov
7. Larson T, Jhaveri H, Yeung LL. Adjustable continence therapy (ProACT) for the treatment of male stress incontinence: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Neurourol Urodyn*. 2019;38(8):2051-2059. doi:10.1002/nau.24135
8. Munier P, Nicolas M, Tricard T, et al. What if artificial urinary sphincter is not possible? Feasibility and effectiveness of ProACT for patients with persistent stress urinary incontinence after radical prostatectomy treated by sling. *Nurourol Urodyn*. 2020;39(5):1417-1422. doi:10.1002/nau.24355
9. Musco S, Ecclestone H, Hoen L, et al. Efficacy and safety of surgical treatments for neurogenic stress urinary incontinence in adults: a systematic review. *Eur Urol Focus*. 2022;8(4):1090-1102. doi:10.1016/j.euf.2021.08.007
10. Nash S, Aboseif S, Gilling P, et al. Four-year follow-up on 68 patients with a new post-operatively adjustable long-term implant for post-prostatectomy stress incontinence: ProACT. *Neurourol Urodyn*. 2019;38(1):248-253. doi:10.1002/nau.23838
11. Premarket approval (PMA) P130018: FDA summary of safety and effectiveness data. Food and Drug Administration. November 24, 2015. Accessed May 6, 2025. www.accessdata.fda.gov
12. ProACT: patient brochure. Food and Drug Administration. Accessed May 6, 2025. www.accessdata.fda.gov
13. ProACT: physician instructions for use. Food and Drug Administration. Accessed May 6, 2025. www.accessdata.fda.gov
14. ProACT adjustable continence therapy (Uromedica) for treatment of post-surgical incontinence in men. Hayes; 2023. Accessed May 6, 2025. www.evidence.hayesinc.com
15. ProACT therapy for the treatment of stress urinary incontinence in males (ProACT). National Library of Medicine. Updated May 31, 2018. Accessed May 6, 2025. clinicaltrials.gov
16. Sandhu JS, Bryer B, Comiter C, et al. Incontinence after prostate treatment: AUA/SUFU guideline. *J Urol*. 2019;202:369-378. doi:10.1097/ju.0000000000000314

Independent medical review – February 2025

The MEDICAL Policy Statement detailed above has received due consideration as defined in the MEDICAL Policy Statement Policy and is approved.