High Frequency Chest Wall Oscillation and Bronchiectasis

Overview
Using a High Frequency Chest Wall Oscillation (HFCWO) device to treat bronchiectasis reduced hospital visits, related healthcare usage (e.g., emergency room trips) and prescriptions/antibiotic use.

Benefits of HFCWO
HFCWO is an encouraging option for treating bronchiectasis.

Results
A clinical outcomes study of 59 patients with non-cystic fibrosis bronchiectasis using HFCWO produced encouraging results.

- **57% ↓** Fewer antibiotic prescriptions.
- **60% ↓** Decrease in emergency room visits.
- **58% ↓** Decrease in number of hospital visits.
- **68% ↑** Patients reported improved quality of life.

- Consistently effective airway clearance therapy.
- Treatment monitoring available to connect patients with their health care team.
- Alternative methods are largely technique- and effort-dependent.
- Less complicated for caregivers and doesn’t require a certain technique.
Using High Frequency Chest Wall Oscillation

Produces significant results in multiple areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DECREASE</th>
<th>INCREASE</th>
<th>GOOD–EXCELLENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="https://example.com/hospitalizations" alt="Hospitalizations" /></td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/dyspnea" alt="Improvement in dyspnea and quality of life" /></td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/clear-lungs" alt="Reported in ability to clear lungs" /></td>
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<tr>
<td><img src="https://example.com/offices" alt="Office, emergency department and hospital outpatient visits" /></td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/functional-capacity" alt="Significant increase of Forced Vital Capacity (FVC) and Forced Expiratory Volume (FEV) after treatment" /></td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/respiratory-health" alt="Reported in overall respiratory health" /></td>
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<tr>
<td><img src="https://example.com/medications" alt="Prescriptions/antibiotic use" /></td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/lung-function" alt="Improvement in several lung function parameters compared to CPT" /></td>
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</tbody>
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**Medicare Coverage Criteria for HFCWO Airway Clearance Therapy**

**Bronchiectasis**

**Patient diagnosed with bronchiectasis:**
Confirmed by a standard CT scan, which is characterized by:
- a) Daily productive cough for at least six continuous months
  OR
- b) Frequent (i.e., three or more in a year) exacerbations requiring antibiotic therapy

**AND**
There must be well-documented failure of standard treatments to adequately mobilize retained secretions.

**Examples of standard treatments:**
- Manual Chest Percussion Therapy (CPT)
- Positive Expiratory Pressure (PEP) device
- Postural drainage
- Nebulized medication with mucolytic

**References**

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