

2007

Subscriber Name:

Patient Name:

Dear

This is in response to the appeal received by Blue Shield of California (Blue Shield) on 2007 regarding the denial of a hip resurfacing procedure using the Conserve Plus device. Blue Shield had denied the requested service as investigational and not in accord with Blue Shield of California's medical policy technology assessment criteria.

Your appeal request has been denied.

It has been determined that the Conserve Plus device is considered investigational and not in accord with Blue Shield of California's medical policy technology assessment criteria for the following reasons:

- The principal reason for the denial is that this device is considered to be investigational. Specifically, the clinical rationale for the denial is that this device is neither Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved or Blue Shield approved for your condition. There is insufficient evidence in the peer reviewed medical literature to conclude that this device is both safe and effective for the treatment of your condition. As indicated in the initial denial, Blue Shield will authorize hip resurfacing with an FDA approved femoral/acetabular component

Your Blue Shield health plan specifically excludes benefits for services that are experimental or investigational; therefore, Blue Shield is unable to provide benefits for the requested service. Although the Plan is unable to approve services for Conserve Plus device, the Plan does provide benefits for other types of treatment, which you may wish to discuss with your provider.

A copy of the criteria used in the decision making is enclosed.

The appeal review was conducted by a Blue Shield Medical Director who is a California-licensed physician with appropriate knowledge and clinical training.