

Subject:	Outcome of assessment of endobronchial lung volume reduction by means of one-way valves in cases of emphysema
Summary:	<p>In this outcome of assessment CVZ assessed whether using one-way valves to reduce endobronchial lung volume (BLVR) in cases of emphysema can be regarded as an insured provision. Within the framework of maintaining the diagnosis-treatment combination (DBC) system, it is not always clear whether an innovative intervention can be regarded as an insured provision under the <i>Zorgverzekeringswet</i> (Health Insurance Act, Zvw). This lack of clarity applies to the intervention BLVR by means of one-way valves in cases of emphysema.</p> <p>The main question is whether BLVR using one-way valves in cases of emphysema fulfils the established medical science and medical practice criterion which would mean that this indication-intervention combination can be regarded as an insured provision. The answer to this question is that the currently available literature shows that BLVR using one-way valves in cases of emphysema is not a clinically relevant effective treatment for most patients. As a result, the treatment cannot be regarded as effective. For this reason, this indication-intervention combination is not regarded as an insured medical care provision. Consequently, this indication-intervention combination cannot be provided or reimbursed at the expense of the basic insurance provided by the Zvw.</p> <p>The results do seem promising for a sub-group of patients. This is currently the subject of research. If these results are positive, CVZ will be able to reconsider its assessment. Proper implementation practices require that the professional group draws up an indication-treatment protocol.</p>
Type of ruling:	SpZ = Zvw outcome of assessment
Date:	Approved on 21 December 2012
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