

# Update-New Skin Substitute Policies-New Effective Date-October 1st 2023

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September 20, 2023

It was originally stated on August 3 that Novitas, First Coast Service Options, and CGS Part B Medicare Administrative Contractors (MAC) finalized skin substitute policies for the treatment of diabetic foot ulcers (DFC's) and venous leg ulcers (VLU's) that would have gone into effect September 17, 2023.

**The new effective date for the policies is October 1. All three MACs state the delay to the effective date is due to “a large system update.”**

The policies state **“greater than four applications of a skin substitute graft or CTP within the episode of skin replacement surgery** (defined as 12 weeks from the first application of a skin substitute graft or CTP)” **are “not medically reasonable and necessary.”** Additionally, these policies list 58 products that meet the necessary FDA regulatory requirements for indications covered in the policy (**see attachment**) and 130 products that are considered non-covered (**see attachment**).

The Novitas Part B Jurisdiction includes AR, CO, DE, LA, MD, MS, NJ, NM, OK, PA, TX, and Washington, DC-**See attachment**

The First Coast Service Options Part B Jurisdiction includes FL, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

The CGS Part B Jurisdiction includes KY and OH.

**Reference: APMA, Novitas**