Durable Medical Equipment (DME), Prosthetics, Corrective Appliances/ Orthotics (Non-Foot Orthotics), Nutritional Therapy, and Medical Supplies Grid

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➲ Instructions for Use

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• Porcine Skin and Gradient Pressure Dressings (NCD 270.5)	• Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation (TENS)

Coverage Guidelines

Durable medical equipment (DME), prosthetic, corrective appliance/orthotic and medical supplies are covered when Medicare coverage criteria are met.

DME MACs and Jurisdictions

DME MACs and Jurisdictions are as follows:

- **(J-A) Noridian Healthcare Solutions** - CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT.
- **(J-B) CGS Administrators** - IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, OH, WI.
- **(J-C) CGS Administrators** - AL, AR, CO, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, NM, OK, PR, SC, TN, TX, VA, VI, WV.
- **(J-D) Noridian Healthcare Solutions** - AK, AS, AZ, CA, GU, HI, IA, ID, KS, MO, MT, NV, ND, NE, No Mariana Is, OR, SD, UT, WA, WY.

Important Note: This grid does not include all the covered DME, Prosthetics, Corrective Appliances/Orthotics and Medical Supplies. The benefit information in this Coverage Summary is based on existing national coverage policy, however, Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) may exist and compliance with these policies is

required where applicable. LCDs are available at http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/. Refer to the specific DME Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) Local Coverage policies for coverage criteria, claims processing and coding information.
(Accessed August 21, 2023)

DME Face-to-Face Requirement

Section 6407 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) established a face-to-face encounter requirement for certain items of Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies (DMEPOS).

The law requires that a physician must document that a physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant or clinical nurse specialist has had a face-to-face encounter with the patient. The encounter must occur within the 6 months before the order is written for the DME. For face-to-face encounter information regarding Power Mobility Devices (PMDs), refer to the Mobility Assistive Equipment (MAE) section.

For the most current Medicare face-to-face encounter requirement guidance and DMEPOS List, refer to the CMS Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies (DMEPOS) Order Requirements.

Corrections and Amendments to the Face-to-Face Visit and Written Order Prior to Delivery: For instructions for remedy when the face-to-face visit documentation does not describe a medical condition for which the DME is being prescribed or the written order prior to delivery (WOPD) is defective. Refer to the Joint DME MAC Article-ACA 6407 Requirements - Corrections and Amendments to the Face-to-Face Visit and Written Order Prior to Delivery (WOPD).
(Accessed August 21, 2023)

*Medical Supplies are covered only when they are incident to a physician's professional services and are furnished as an integral, although incidental, part of those services in the course of diagnosis or treatment of an injury or illness.

DME Rental or Purchase

DME may be rented or purchased and must meet all of the following criteria:

- The equipment meets the definition of DME (refer to the Definitions section).
- The equipment is necessary and reasonable for the treatment of the member's illness or injury or to improve the functioning of his/her malformed body member.
- The equipment is used in the member's home (refer to the Definitions section).

Notes:
Capped-rental DME: For payment rules for capped-rental DME, refer to the 42 CFR Title 42, Chapter IV, §414.229 Other durable medical equipment - capped rental.

Also refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110 – Durable Medical Equipment – General.
(Accessed August 21, 2023)

Prosthetic and Corrective Appliances/Orthotics

Prosthetic devices and corrective appliances/orthotics must meet all of the following criteria:

- The item meets the definition of prosthetic or corrective appliances/orthotics (refer to the Definitions).
- The item is furnished on a physician's order.

Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §120 – Prosthetic Devices.
(Accessed August 21, 2023)

Supplies for DME Items, Prosthetic Devices, and Corrective Appliances

Supplies for DME items, prosthetic devices and corrective appliances (e.g., oxygen, batteries for an artificial larynx) are covered only when they are necessary for the effective use of the item/device. For specific coverage guideline*;* refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.3 – Coverage of Supplies and Accessories.
(Accessed August 21, 2023)

Repairs, Maintenance, and Replacement

Durable Medical Equipment

Repairs, maintenance, and replacement of medically required DME are covered when criteria are met. For coverage guideline, refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.2 – Repairs, Replacement and Maintenance and Delivery.
(Accessed August 21, 2023)

Prosthetic Devices

Payment may be made for the replacement of a prosthetic device that is an artificial limb, or replacement part of a device if the ordering physician determines that the replacement device or part is necessary because of any of the following:

- A change in the physiological condition of the patient;
- An irreparable change in the condition of the device, or in a part of the device; or
- **The condition of the device, or the part of the device, requires repairs and the cost of such repairs would be more than 60 percent of the cost of a replacement device, or, as the case may be, of the part being replaced.**

Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §120 – Prosthetic Devices.
(Accessed August 21, 2023)

Corrective Appliances

Adjustment of corrective appliances are covered when required by wear or a change in the patient's condition and ordered by a physician.

Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §130 – Leg, Arm, Back, and Neck Braces, Trusses, and Artificial Legs, Arms, and Eyes.
(Accessed August 21, 2023)

Medical Supplies

- Medical supplies are covered only when they are incident to a physician's professional services or authorized home health services and are furnished as an integral, although incidental, part of those services in the course of diagnosis or treatment of an injury or illness. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy, Manual, Chapter 15, §60.1 – Incident to Physician's Professional Services.
- Medical supplies are expendable items required for care related to a medical illness or dysfunction. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.1 – Definition of Durable Medical Equipment. Medical supplies may not be billed as implantable devices (refer to Definitions section).

For additional coverage guidelines, refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110 – §130.

For general instructions on billing and claims processing, refer to the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 20 – Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS).
(Accessed August 21, 2023)

DME, Prosthetic, Corrective Appliance/Orthotic and Medical Supplies Grid

Item	Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Abdominal Binder		See Dressings/Bandages.
Air Splint	Medical Supply*	Clear plastic splints inflated by air used temporarily on fractured, broken, crushed or burned limbs. Refer to the: • Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §60.1 – Incident to Physician's Professional Services. • Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 20, §170 Billing for Splints and Casts. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Air-Fluidized Bed		See Alternating Pressure Pads and Mattress/Pressure Reducing Support Surfaces-Group 3.
Alternating Pressure Pads and Mattress (Pressure Reducing Support Surfaces) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	DME	• Coverage criteria apply. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). **Group 1** (Gel Flotation Devices, Lamb's Wool Pads/Sheep Skins, Egg Crate Mattress); refer to the DME MAC LCD for Pressure Reducing Support Surfaces - Group 1 (L33830). • **Group 2** (Low Air Loss or Powered Flotation without Low Air Loss); refer to the DME MAC LCD for Pressure Reducing Support Surfaces - Group 2 (L33642). • **Group 3** [Air-Fluidized Bed (Bead Bed), e.g., Clinitron]; refer to the NCD for Air-Fluidized Bed (280.8). Also refer to the DME MAC LCD for Pressure Reducing Support Surfaces – Group 3 (L33692). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitoring (ABPM)		Coverage criteria apply. Refer to the Coverage Summary titled Cardiovascular Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures.
Ambulatory Boot (also known as surgical boot)		See Surgical Boot.
Ankle-Foot Orthosis (AFO)/Knee-Ankle-Foot Orthosis (KAFO) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	Corrective Appliance/ Orthotic	Coverage criteria apply. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Ankle-Foot/Knee-Ankle-Foot Orthoses (L33686).

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Ankle-Foot Orthosis (AFO)/Knee-Ankle-Foot Orthosis (KAFO) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		Corrective Appliance/ Orthotic	**Note**: A foot drop splint/recumbent positioning device and replacement interface will be denied as not medically necessary in a patient with foot drop who is non-ambulatory because there are other more appropriate treatment modalities. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Artificial Eye (Eye Prosthesis)		Prosthetic	Covered for member with absence or shrinkage of an eye due to birth defect, trauma or surgical removal. Coverage includes polishing and resurfacing on a twice per year basis. Orbital implants are reimbursed as surgical implants. Refer to the: • DME MAC LCD for Eye Prosthesis (L33737). • Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §120 – Prosthetic Devices and §130 – Leg, Arm, Back, and Neck Braces, Trusses, and Artificial Legs, Arms, and Eyes. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Artificial Larynx or Electrolarynx (e.g., UltraVoice)		Prosthetic	Covered as prosthetic; refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §120 – Prosthetic Devices. (Accessed August 21,2023)
Artificial Limbs-Lower Limb • Standard. • C-leg (microprocessor-controlled knee-shin system). Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		Prosthetic	Covered when criteria are met. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Lower Limb Prostheses (L33787) for coverage guideline. Also refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §130 – Leg, Arm, Back, and Neck Braces, Trusses, and Artificial Legs, Arms, and Eyes. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Artificial Limbs-Upper Limb	Standard	Prosthetic	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §130 – Leg, Arm, Back, and Neck Braces, Trusses, and Artificial Legs, Arms, and Eyes. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Myoelectric (Lower limb)	Prosthetic	Medicare does not have a National Coverage Determination (NCD) for myoelectric limbs. Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)/Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) do not exist at this time. For **coverage guidelines**, refer to the UnitedHealthcare Commercial Medical Policy titled Lower Extremity Prosthetics. **Note**: After searching the Medicare Coverage Database, if no LCD/LCA is found, then use the policy referenced above for coverage guidelines. For MyoPro®, see Myoelectric Arm Orthosis (i.e., MyoPro®). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Augmentative Communication Devices			See Speech Generating Devices.
Back Brace/Orthosis			See Spinal Orthosis.

Item	Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Bead Bed		See Air Fluidized Bed.
Beds		See Hospital Beds and Accessories.
Bed Cradle		See Hospital Beds and Accessories.
Bed Pan (autoclavable, hospital type)	DME	If member is bed confined. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Bed Specs		See Hospital Beds and Accessories.
Bi-level Positive Airway Pressure (BiPAP) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	DME	Coverage criteria apply. For sleep apnea, refer to the Coverage Summary titled Sleep Apnea Diagnosis and Treatment. For other respiratory conditions, refer to the DME MAC LCD for Respiratory Assist Devices (L33800). (Accessed August 21, 2023) Also see Respiratory Assist Devices.
Blood Glucose Analyzer-reflectance Colorimeter	Not covered	Unsuitable for home use. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). Also refer to the NCD for Home Blood Glucose Monitors (40.2). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Blood Glucose Monitors Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		Home blood glucose monitors and supplies (e.g., blood testing strips and lancets, replacement batteries) are covered when the following criteria are met. Refer to the NCD for Home Blood Glucose Monitors (40.2). **Note**: For guidelines on the appropriate quantities of strips and lancets, refer to the DME MAC Local Coverage Determination (LCD) for Glucose Monitors (L33822). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Blood Pressure Monitor /Sphygmomanometer		Only for members on home dialysis; fully and semi-automatic (member activated) portable monitors are not covered. Refer to: • Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 11, § 20.4 – Equipment and Supplies. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Bone Stimulator (Electronic or Ultrasonic)	DME	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the Coverage Summary titled Electrical and Ultrasonic Stimulators.
Braces		See AFO/KAFO or Knee Orthosis or Spinal Orthosis.
Bras (mastectomy)	Prosthetic	Refer to the: • Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §120 – Prosthetic Devices. • DME MAC LCD for External Breast Prostheses (L33317).

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Bras (mastectomy)		Prosthetic	(Accessed August 21, 2023) Also see Breast Prosthesis. Also refer to the Coverage Summary titled Cosmetic and Reconstructive Procedures.
Breast Prosthesis (external) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		Prosthetic	Covered for members who have had a mastectomy or lumpectomy. An external breast prosthesis of the same type can be replaced at any time if it is lost or is irreparably damaged (this does not include ordinary wear and tear). An external breast prosthesis of a different type can be covered at any time if there is a change in the patient's medical condition necessitating a different type of item. The Medicare program will pay for only one breast prosthesis per side for the useful lifetime of the prosthesis. Two prostheses, one per side, are allowed for those persons who have had bilateral mastectomies. More than one external breast prosthesis per side will be denied as not reasonable and necessary. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for External Breast Prostheses (L33317). Also refer to the following Medicare references: • Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §100 – Surgical Dressings, Splints, Casts, and Other Devices Used for Reductions of Fractures and Dislocations. • Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §120 – Prosthetic Devices. (Accessed August 21, 2023) Also see Bras (mastectomy) and Lymphedema Sleeve. Also refer to the Coverage Summary titled Cosmetic and Reconstructive Procedures.
Cam Walkers (also known as Walking Boot)			See AFO/KAFO, Ambulatory Boot.
Canes	Quad or Straight	DME	See Mobility Assistive Equipment.
	White	Not covered	See Mobility Assistive Equipment.
Casts (plaster, fiberglass)		Medical Supply*	Used to reduce fractures or dislocations. Refer to the: • Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, § 60.1 Incident To Physician's Professional Services. • Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 20, §170 – Billing for Splints and Casts. (Accessed August 21, 2023)

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Catheters and Supplies Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	Closed Drainage Bags		See Urinary Drainage Bags.
	External Urinary Collection Devices (e.g., male external catheters and female pouches/meatal cups)	Prosthetic	Only for members with non-functioning bladder or permanent incontinence when used as an alternative to an indwelling catheter. Male external catheters are limited to no more than 35 per month and female external urinary collection devices are limited to no more than one metal cup per week or one pouch per day. Requests for a greater quantity must be documented by a participating physician as medically necessary. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Urological Supplies (L33803). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Foley/Indwelling	Prosthetic	Only for members with non-functioning bladder or permanent incontinence as medically required. Limited to no more than one catheter per month for routine catheter maintenance. Requests for a greater quantity must be documented by a participating physician as medically necessary. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Urological Supplies (L33803). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Intermittent Urinary Catheters	Prosthetic	Intermittent catheterization is covered when basic coverage criteria are met and the patient or caregiver can perform the procedure. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Urological Supplies (L33803). **Notes**: • Any patient who utilizes intermittent catheterization can receive one sterile urological catheter and one packet of lubricant for each catheterization. • Important Points: ○ First, the prescription should reflect the actual number of times that the patient actually catheterizes him/herself per day. For example, if the patient self-catheterizes four times per day, the prescription should be for approximately 120 catheters per month. ○ Although the LCD says that Medicare will cover up to 200 intermittent catheters per month, this is a maximum number and most patients self-catheterize less than 6 times per day. It would be inappropriate to order 200 catheters per month for every patient. The prescription must be individualized for each patient. ○ The second important point is that the provider should clearly document in the chart the number of times per day that the patient performs self-catheterization. Just listing that value on the prescription or on a separate form provided by the supplier is not sufficient. Refer to the Joint DME MAC Letter – Intermittent Urinary Catheterization. (Accessed August 21, 2023)

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Catheters and Supplies Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	Leg Bags (Leg drainage bags)	Prosthetic	Only for members with non-functioning bladder or permanent incontinence who is ambulatory or are chair or wheelchair bound. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Urological Supplies (L33803). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Cervical Collar (Semi-rigid, Soft and Rigid)		Corrective Appliance/ Orthotic	Covered as a brace; refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §130 – Leg, Arm, Back, and Neck Braces, Trusses, and Artificial Legs, Arms, and Eyes. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Cervical Thoracic Lumbar Sacral Orthosis (CTLSO)			See Spinal Orthosis.
Chair (adjustable)		DME	Only for members on home dialysis. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 11, §50.5 – Coverage of Home Dialysis Supplies. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Chemical Test Strips			Coverage criteria apply; refer to the NCD for Home Blood Glucose Monitors (40.2). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Coagulation Monitor			See Home Prothrombin INR Monitoring.
Cochlear Implant (External Component of Device)		Prosthetic	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the Coverage Summary titled Hearing Services and Devices.
Cold Therapy • Cold Packs/Cool Jackets. • Water circulating cold pad with pump (e.g., Polar Units).		Not covered	Not medically necessary. Alternative therapy available with the same outcomes. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Cold Therapy (L33735). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Collagen Implant		Prosthetic	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the Coverage Summary titled Urinary and Fecal Incontinence, Diagnosis and Treatments.
Colostomy Bag			See Ostomy Supplies.
Commode, bedside (without wheels only) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		DME	Covered when member is physically incapable of utilizing regular toilet facilities. This would occur when: • The member is confined to a single room, or • The member is confined to one level of the home environment and there is not toilet on that level, or • The member is confined to the home and there are no toilet facilities in the home. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). Also refer to the DME MAC LCD for Commodes (L33736). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Communicators			See Speech Generating Devices.
Compression Garments / Bandages for Lymphedema			See Lymphedema Sleeves.
Contact Lens, Hydrophilic Soft (external)		Prosthetic	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the Coverage Summary titled Vision Services, Therapy, and Rehabilitation.

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) Device or System		DME	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the DME MAC Local Coverage Determination (LCD) for Glucose Monitors (L33822). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Continuous Passive Motion (CPM) Devices		DME	Continuous passive motion devices are covered for patients who have received a total knee replacement. To qualify for coverage, use of the device must commence within 2 days following surgery. In addition, coverage is limited to that portion of the 3-week period following surgery during which the device is used in the patient's home. There is insufficient evidence to justify coverage of these devices for longer periods of time or for other applications. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) Devices		DME	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the Coverage Summary titled Sleep Apnea Diagnosis and Treatment.
Corset		Corrective Appliance/ Orthotic	A hernia support (whether in the form of a corset or truss) which meets the definition of a brace is covered. Refer to the NCD for Corset Used as Hernia Support (280.11). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Cough Assist Devices/Mechanical In-exsufflation Devices Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		DME	Mechanical in-exsufflation devices are covered for patients who meet both of the following criteria: • They have a neuromuscular disease, and • This condition is causing a significant impairment of chest wall and/or diaphragmatic movement, such that it results in an inability to clear retained secretions. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Mechanical In-exsufflation Devices (L33795). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Cranial Band			See Helmet (Safety Equipment).
Cranial Orthosis			See Helmet (Cranial Orthosis).
Crutches		DME	See Mobility Assistive Equipment.
Deep brain stimulation (DBS)	Unilateral or bilateral thalamic ventralis intermedius nucleus (VIM) DBS	Prosthetic	For the treatment of essential tremor (ET) and/or Parkinsonian tremor; for specific coverage criteria; refer to the Coverage Summary titled Electrical and Ultrasonic Stimulators.
	Unilateral or bilateral subthalamic nucleus (STN) or globus pallidus interna (Gpi) DBS	Prosthetic	For the treatment of Parkinson's disease (PD); for specific coverage criteria, refer to the Coverage Summary titled Electrical and Ultrasonic Stimulators.
Dental Splint			See Splints.
Diabetic Supplies			Supplies (e.g., blood testing strips and lancets, replacement batteries) are covered when the following criteria are met. Refer to the NCD for Home Blood Glucose Monitors (40.2).

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Diabetic Supplies			**Note**: For guidelines on the appropriate quantities of strips and lancets, refer to the DME MAC Local Coverage Determination (LCD) for Glucose Monitors (L33822). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Dialysis Home Kit, Peritoneal		DME	Only for members on home dialysis. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 11, §20.4 – Equipment and Supplies. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Diathermy Machines (standard pulses wave type, e.g., Diapulse)		Not covered	Inappropriate for home use. Refer to the: • NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). • NCD for Diathermy Treatment (150.5). (Accessed August 21, 2023) Also refer to the Coverage Summary titled Skilled Nursing Facility, Rehabilitation, and Long-Term Acute Care and Hospitalization.
Digital Electronic Pacemaker Monitors			See Pacemaker Monitors.
Disposable Items		Not covered	Examples include but are not limited to: • Diapers (Incontinent pads). • Disposable Sheets and Bags. • Elastic Stockings. • Incontinence Pads. • Irrigating Kits. • Support Hose/Fabric Support (e.g., Ted Hose). • Surgical Face Mask. • Surgical Leggings. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). • Wedge Pillow. • Syringes (Ear bulb & Hypodermic). Refer to the Social Security Act §1861(n), Social Security Act §1862(a)(6) and the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 16, §80 – Personal Comfort Items. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Dressings/Bandages	Non-surgical Dressings/Bandages (e.g., Ace bandages)	Medical Supply*	Only when provided in the physician's office, otherwise considered over the counter. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §60.1 – Incident To Physician's Professional Services. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Surgical Dressings	Medical Supply* DME Prosthetic	Surgical dressings may be covered as: • Medical supply when provided the physician's office. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §60.1 – Incident To Physician's Professional Services.

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Dressings/Bandages	Surgical Dressings	Medical Supply* DME Prosthetic	• DME when ordered by the treating physician or other healthcare professional for the patient's home use in conjunction with a durable medical equipment (e.g., infusion pumps). Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.3 - Coverage of Supplies and Accessories. • Prosthetic when ordered by the treating physician or other healthcare professional for the patient's home use as dressing for surgical wound or for wound debridement or in conjunction with a prosthetic device (e.g., tracheostomy). Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §120(D) - Supplies, Repairs, Adjustments, and Replacement. Surgical dressings are limited to primary dressings (therapeutic or protective coverings applied directly to a wound) or secondary dressings (dressings that serve a therapeutic or protective function and are needed to secure a primary dressing, e.g., tape, roll gauze, transparent film) that are medically necessary for the treatment of a wound caused by, or treated by, a surgical procedure or wound debridement. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §100 - Surgical Dressings, Splints, Casts, and Other Devices Used for Reductions of Fractures and Dislocations. For specific coverage guidelines for surgical dressings, refer to the DME MAC LCD for Surgical Dressings (L33831). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Egg Crate (with waterproof cover only)			See Pressure Pads-Pressure Reducing Surfaces Group 1.
Elbow Orthosis Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		Corrective Appliance/ Orthotic	Used for compression of tissue or to limit motion. Custom molded covered only when member cannot be fitted with a prefabricated elbow support. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §130 – Leg, Arm, Back, and Neck Braces, Trusses, and Artificial Legs, Arms, and Eyes. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Electrical Stimulation Devices Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	Interferential Stimulation Device	Not covered	Medicare does not have a National Coverage Determination (NCD) for interferential stimulation device. Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)/Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) do not exist at this time. For **coverage guidelines**, refer to the UnitedHealthcare Commercial Medical Policy titled Electrical Stimulation for the Treatment of Pain and Muscle Rehabilitation. **Note**: After searching the Medicare Coverage Database, if no LCD/LCA is found, then use the policy referenced above for coverage guidelines. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulator (TENS) Unit	DME	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the NCD for Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation (TENS) for Acute Post-Operative Pain (10.2). Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)/Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) exist and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. Refer to the DME MAC

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Electrical Stimulation Devices Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulator (TENS) Unit	DME	LCD for Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulators (TENS) (L33802). For coverage of supplies necessary for TENS; refer to the NCD for Supplies Used in the Delivery of Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation (TENS) and Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation (NMES) (160.13). For an explanation of coverage for assessing patients' suitability for electrical nerve stimulation therapy; refer to the NCD for Assessing Patient's Suitability for Electrical Nerve Stimulation Therapy (160.7.1). **Note**: TENS is not reasonable and necessary for the treatment of CLBP under section 1862(a) (1)(A) of the Act. As of June 8, 2015, The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) coverage for Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation (TENS) for chronic low back pain (CLBP) under Coverage with Evidence Development (CED) expired. Refer to the NCD for Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation (TENS) for Chronic Low Back Pain (CLBP) (160.27). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulators (NMES)	DME	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the Coverage Summary titled Electrical and Ultrasonic Stimulators.
Electrical Stimulation Devices or Electromagnetic Therapy for Wound Healing			Coverage criteria apply; refer to the Coverage Summary titled Wound Treatments. **Note**: Electrical stimulation devices for wound healing in the home setting is not covered. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Electronic Speech Aid		Prosthetic	Coverage for member post laryngectomy or permanently inoperative larynx condition. Refer to the NCD for Electronic Speech Aids (50.2). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Enuresis Training Item (penile clamp)		Prosthetic	For urinary incontinence; refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §120 -Prosthetic Devices. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Eye Prosthesis			See Artificial Eye.
External Breast Prostheses			See Breast Prosthesis.
Fabric Supports			See Stockings.
Face Masks – Oxygen		DME	Covered if oxygen is covered. Coverage criteria for oxygen apply. For coverage criteria, refer to the National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Home Use of Oxygen (240.2). Also refer to the DME MAC LCD for Oxygen and Oxygen Equipment (L33797). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Facial Prosthesis		Prosthetic	A facial prosthesis is covered when there is loss or absence of facial tissue due to disease, trauma, surgery, or a congenital defect. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Facial Prostheses (L33738). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Fluidic Breathing Assister			See Intermittent Positive Pressure Breathing (IPPB) Machines.

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Fomentation Devices			See Heating Pads.
Foot Cradle			See Bed Cradle.
Formula (enteral feedings)			See Nutritional Therapy.
Gradient Pressure Stockings (e.g., Jobst stockings)			See Stockings.
Hearing Aid			Refer to the Coverage Summary titled Hearing Services and Devices.
Heat Lamp		DME	Covered if patient's condition is one for which the application of heat in the form of heat lamp is therapeutically effective. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Heating Pads, Steam Packs or Hot Packs	Electrical or Non-electrical	DME	Covered if patient's medical condition is one for which the application of heat in the form of heat pad is therapeutically effective. Refer to the: • NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). • DME MAC LCD for Heating Pads and Heat Lamps (L33784). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Infrared	Not covered	Not primarily medical in nature. Refer to the: • NCD for Infrared Therapy Devices (270.6). • DME MAC LCD for Infrared Heating Pad Systems (L33825). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Helmet (cranial orthosis)		Corrective Appliance/ Orthotic	For members with head injuries or reconstructive plating. Not intended for recreational purposes. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §130 – Leg, Arm, Back, and Neck Braces, Trusses, and Artificial Legs, Arms, and Eyes. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Helmet (Safety Equipment)		Not covered	Refer to the Social Security Act §1861(n) and Social Security Act §1862(a)(6). Also refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §130 – Leg, Arm, Back, and Neck Braces, Trusses, and Artificial Legs, Arms, and Eyes. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
High Frequency Chest Wall Oscillation Devices (e.g., ThAIRapy® vest) (HCPCS code E0483) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		DME	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the Coverage Summary titled Respiratory Services and Equipment.
Holter Monitor (cardiac event monitor)		Medical Supply*	Coverage criteria apply. Refer to the Coverage Summary titled Cardiovascular Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures.
Home Prothrombin Time International Normalized Ratio (INR) Monitoring		Medical Supply*	Effective for claims with dates of service on and after March 19, 2008, CMS revised its NCD to provide for home coverage of PT/INR monitoring for chronic, oral

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Home Prothrombin Time International Normalized Ratio (INR) Monitoring		Medical Supply	anticoagulation management for patients with mechanical heart valves, chronic atrial fibrillation, or venous thromboembolism (inclusive of deep venous thrombosis and pulmonary embolism) on warfarin. Refer to the NCD for Home Prothrombin Time/International Normalized Ratio (PT/INR) Monitoring for Anticoagulation Management (190.11) for more detailed benefit information. (This NCD is distinct from, and makes no changes to the clinical laboratory NCD for Prothrombin Time (PT) (190.17). Also refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §60.1 – Incident To Physician's Professional Services. **Notes**: • Test materials continue to include 4 tests. Frequency of reporting requirements shall remain the same. • Home INR monitoring is not covered for members with porcine valves unless covered by local Medicare contractors. Refer to the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 32, Section 60 – Coverage and Billing for Home Prothrombin Time (PT/INR) Monitoring for Home Anticoagulation Management. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Hospital Beds and Accessories Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		DME	Covered when criteria are met. Refer to the NCD for Hospital Beds (280.7) and DME MAC LCD for Hospital Beds and Accessories (L33820). **The following are not covered**: • A total electric hospital bed; height adjustment feature is a convenience feature. For further details, refer to the DME MAC LCD for Hospital Beds and Accessories (L33820). • Bed specs or prism glasses (i.e., glasses use to read while lying flat on bed); refer to the Social Security Act §1861(n) and the Social Security Act §1862(a)(6). Also refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.1 (B)(2) – Equipment Presumptively Non-Medical. • Lounge (power or manual), Oscillating, and over bed tables; refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Hot Packs			See Heating Pads.
Humidifiers	For use with C-PAP or BiPAP (heated or non-heated)	DME	For coverage criteria for C-PAP or BiPAP; refer to the Coverage Summary titled Sleep Apnea Diagnosis and Treatment.

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Humidifiers	For use with the Respiratory Assist Devices	DME	For coverage criteria for RADs; refer to the DME MAC LCD for Respiratory Assist Devices (L33800). Also refer to the Coverage Summary titled Sleep Apnea Diagnosis and Treatment. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	For use with Oxygen System	DME	Coverage criteria for oxygen apply. For coverage criteria, refer to the National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Home Use of Oxygen (240.2). Also refer to the DME MAC LCD for Oxygen and Oxygen Equipment (L33797). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Room or Central Heating System Types	Not covered	Environmental control equipment; not medical in nature. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Hydraulic Lifts			See Lifts.
Immobilizer (extremity)			See Knee Orthosis.
INDEPENDENCE iBOT 4000 Mobility System		DME	See Mobility Assistive Equipment.
Incontinence Control Devices (mechanical and hydraulic) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		Prosthetic	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the Coverage Summary titled Urinary and Fecal Incontinence, Diagnosis and Treatments.
Infusion Pump			See Pumps.
Inhalation Machine			See Nebulizers, or Humidifiers, or IPPB Machines.
Insulin pump, including insulin and necessary supplies			Coverage criteria apply; refer to the NCD for Insulin Syringe (40.4) and NCD for Infusion Pumps (280.14). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Intermittent Positive Pressure Breathing (IPPB) Machines		DME	Covered if patient's ability to breathe is severely impaired. (Includes fluidic breathing assisters). Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Iron Lungs			See Ventilators.
Jaw Motion Rehabilitation System (Passive Rehabilitation Therapy)		Not covered	Medicare does not have a National Coverage Determination (NCD) for jaw motion rehabilitation system. Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)/Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) do not exist at this time. For **coverage guidelines**, refer to the UnitedHealthcare Commercial Medical Policy titled Temporomandibular Joint Disorders (unproven at this time; see Jaw Motion Rehabilitation System (Passive Rehabilitation Therapy)). **Note**: After searching the Medicare Coverage Database, if no LCD/LCA is found, then use the policy referenced above for coverage guidelines. (Accessed August 21, 2023)

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Knee Orthosis (e.g., knee immobilizer, range of motion knee orthosis, rigid ace design knee orthosis, anterior cruciate ligament/ACL brace) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		Corrective Appliance/ Orthotic	Coverage criteria apply. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Knee Orthoses (L33318). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Lamb's Wool Pads/Sheep Skins			See Alternating Pressure Pads and Mattresses.
Lifts Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	Hydraulic (Hoyer) Lift/ Patient Lift	DME	Covered if the patient's condition is such that periodic movement is necessary to effect improvement or to arrest or retard deterioration in his condition. Refer to the: • NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). • Also refer to the DME MAC LCD for Patient Lifts (L33799). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Motorized (electric), Ceiling Modified	Not covered	Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.1 – Equipment Presumptively Non-Medical. Also refer to the Social Security Act §1861(n) and 1862(a)(6). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Seat Lift Mechanism	DME	Covered when criteria are met. **Notes**: • Coverage is limited to the seat lift mechanism and installation of the mechanism only. Other related items and services such as costs for the chair or chair upholstery are not covered. • Lift mechanism which operates by spring release with a sudden, catapult-like motion and jolts the patient from a seated to a standing position is not covered. Refer to the: • NCD for Seat Lift (280.4). • DME MAC LCD for Seat Lift Mechanisms (L33801). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	For wheelchairs/ scooters/POVs	Not covered	Not primarily medical in nature. Refer to the Social Security Act §1861(n), Social Security Act §1862(a)(6) and the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 16, §80 – Personal Comfort Items. (Accessed August 21, 2023) Also see Wheelchairs.
Light Therapy Box		Not covered	Not primarily medical in nature. Other devices and equipment used for environmental control or to enhance the environmental setting in which the patient is placed are not considered covered DME. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.1 – Equipment Presumptively Non-Medical. (Accessed August 21, 2023)

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Light Therapy Box		Not covered	Also see Ultraviolet Cabinet.
Lumbar Orthosis (LO) Lumbar-sacral orthosis (LSO)			See Spinal Orthosis.
Lymphedema Pumps			See Pneumatic Compression Devices.
Lymphedema Sleeve (gradient compression garments)			Covered as part of the pneumatic compression devices, not covered as a separate item. Coverage criteria for pneumatic compression devices apply. See Pneumatic Compression Devices.
Mandibular Device (for sleep apnea)		DME	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the Coverage Summary titled Sleep Apnea Diagnosis and Treatment.
Mattress			See Hospital Beds and Accessories.
Mechanical In-exsufflation Devices			See Cough Assist Devices.
Mobile Geriatric Chairs			See Mobility Assistive Equipment.
Mobility Assistive Equipment (MAE)	Canes	DME	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Mobility Assistive Equipment (MAE) (280.3). Also refer to the DME MAC LCD for Canes and Crutches (L33733) and the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). White canes are not covered; not primarily medical in nature; not considered Mobility Assistive Equipment. Refer to the NCD for White Cane for Use by a Blind Person (280.2). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Crutches	DME	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Mobility Assistive Equipment (MAE) (280.3). Also refer to the DME MAC LCD for Canes and Crutches (L33733). **Note**: Crutch substitute (HCPCS code E0118) is not covered. There is insufficient published clinical literature demonstrating safety and effectiveness in the Medicare population to establish the medical necessity for this device. Refer to the • CGS News & Publication - E0118 – Crutch Substitute. • Noridian Article E0118 - Crutch Substitute. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	INDEPENDENCE iBOT 4000 Mobility System	DME	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the NCD for INDEPENDENCE iBOT 4000 Mobility System (280.15). Also refer to the NCD for Mobility Assistive Equipment (MAE) (280.3). (Accessed August 21, 2023)

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Mobility Assistive Equipment (MAE)	Power Mobility Device (PMDs) [includes Power Wheelchairs and Power Operated Vehicle (also known as POVs or scooters)] Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	DME	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Mobility Assistive Equipment (MAE) (280.3) and DME MAC LCD for Power Mobility Devices (L33789). For guidelines for repairs, replacements and maintenance, refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.2 – Repairs, Replacement and Maintenance and Delivery. For guidelines for PMD options and accessories, refer to DME MAC LCD for Wheelchair Options/Accessories (L33792). For guidelines for PMD seating, refer to the DME MAC LCD for Wheelchair Seating (L33312). For documentation and face-to-face requirements for PMDs, refer to the LCD for Power Mobility Devices (L33789) and MLN Matters SE1112 – Power Mobility Device Face-to-Face Examination Checklist. **Notes**: • Home Assessment: Prior to or at the time of delivery of a POV or PWC, the supplier or practitioner must perform an on-site evaluation of the member's home to verify that the member can adequately maneuver the device that is provided considering physical layout, doorway width, doorway thresholds, and surfaces. There must be a written report of this evaluation available on request. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Power Mobility Devices (L33789). • Battery replacement (purchased equipment) are covered only when the member owns or is purchasing (not renting) the electric wheelchair or POV. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.3 – Coverage of Supplies and Accessories. Also refer to the DME MAC LCD for Wheelchair Options/Accessories (L33792). The following are not covered: • POVs for members who are capable of ambulation within the home but require a power vehicle for movement outside of the home. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Power Mobility Devices (L33789). • POVs that are primarily used to allow the member to perform leisure or recreational activities. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Power Mobility Devices (L33789). • Replacement of a wheelchair due to malicious damage, neglect or abuse; refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.2 – Repairs, Replacement and Maintenance and Delivery.

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Mobility Assistive Equipment (MAE)	Power Mobility Device (PMDs) [includes Power Wheelchairs and Power Operated Vehicle (also known as POVs or scooters)] Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	DME	Repairs on rented DME items (DME provider is responsible for such repairs); refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.2 – Repairs, Replacement and Maintenance and Delivery.(Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Walkers	DME	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Mobility Assistive Equipment (MAE) (280.3). Also refer to the DME MAC LCD for Walkers (L33791). **Notes**: • The medical necessity for a walker with an enclosed frame (E0144) has not been established. Therefore, if an enclosed frame walker is provided, it will be denied as not reasonable and necessary. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Walkers (L33791). • Walker with basket is not covered; refer to the Social Security Act §1861(n), Social Security Act §1862(a)(6) and the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 16, §80 – Personal Comfort Items. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Wheelchairs (manual) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	DME	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Mobility Assistive Equipment (MAE) (280.3) and DME MAC LCD for Manual Wheelchair Bases (L33788). For guidelines for wheelchair options and accessories, refer to DME MAC LCD for Wheelchair Options/Accessories (L33792). For guidelines for wheelchair seating, refer to the DME MAC LCD for Wheelchair Seating (L33312). For guidelines for repairs, replacements and maintenance, refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.2 – Repairs, Replacement and Maintenance and Delivery. **Notes**: • Rolling chair/roll-about chair (geriatric chair) may be covered when criteria are met; refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). Also refer to the NCD for Mobility Assistive Equipment (MAE) (280.3). • Payment is made for only one wheelchair at a time. Backup chairs are denied as not reasonable and necessary. One month's rental for a standard manual wheelchair is covered if a member-owned wheelchair is being repaired. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Manual Wheelchair Bases (L33788).

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Mobility Assistive Equipment (MAE)	Wheelchairs (manual) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	DME	The following are not covered: • Ramp for a wheelchair is not covered; not primarily medical in nature. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, § 110.1 (B)(2) – Equipment Presumptively Non-Medical. • Wheelchair upgrades that are beneficial primarily in allowing the member to perform leisure or recreational activities; refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 16, §20 – Services Not Reasonable and Necessary and §10 - General Exclusions from Coverage and the DME MAC LCD for Power Mobility Devices (L33789) and LCA for Power Mobility Devices - Policy Article (A52498). • Deluxe items or features; refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 16, §20 – Services Not Reasonable and Necessary and §10 - General Exclusions from Coverage. • Items purchased for comfort or added convenience for the member or the member's caretaker; refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 16, §20 – Services Not Reasonable and Necessary and §10 - General Exclusions from Coverage. • Replacement of a wheelchair due to malicious damage, neglect or abuse; refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.2 – Repairs, Replacement and Maintenance and Delivery. • Repairs on rented DME items (DME provider is responsible for such repairs); refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.2 – Repairs, Replacement and Maintenance and Delivery. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Myoelectric Arm Orthosis (i.e., MyoPro®) (HCPCS codes L8701 and L8702)			Medicare does not have a National Coverage Determination (NCD) for myoelectric arm orthosis (i.e., MyoPro®). Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)/Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) do not exist at this time. For **coverage guidelines**, refer to the UnitedHealthcare Commercial Medical Policy titled Omnibus Codes. **Note**: After searching the Medicare Coverage Database, if no LCD/LCA is found, then use the policy referenced above for coverage guidelines. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Nebulizers and Supplies Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		DME	Maybe covered when criteria are met. For specific coverage guideline, refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). Also refer to the DME MAC LCD for Nebulizers (L33370) for specific coverage guidelines. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Negative Pressure Wound Therapy Pump			See Vacuum Assisted Closure Device.
Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulator (NMES)			See Electrical Stimulation Devices.

Item	Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Non-contact Normothermic Wound Therapy (NNWT)	Not covered	Insufficient scientific or clinical evidence to be considered reasonable and necessary. Refer to the Coverage Summary titled Wound Treatments.
Nutritional Therapy, Enteral	Prosthetic	Enteral nutritional therapy is covered when criteria are met. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Enteral Nutrition (L38955). Also refer to the DME MAC Joint Article Enteral Nutrition - Correct Coding and Billing. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Nutritional Therapy, Parenteral	Prosthetic	Parenteral nutritional therapy is covered when criteria are met. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Parenteral Nutrition (L38953). Also refer to the following: Joint Article Parenteral Nutrition – Correct Coding and Billing. Note: Parenteral nutrition or intradialytic parenteral nutrition (IDPN) (for individuals with a non-functioning digestive tract) is covered under Part B drugs. Otherwise, coverage would be under Part D drugs. Refer to the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Manual, Chapter 6, Appendix C – Medicare Part B versus Part D Coverage Issues. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Obturator, palatal	Prosthetic	Only for surgically acquired deformity or trauma. Used to replace or fill in a missing palate or portion of the palate. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §120 – Prosthetic Devices. (Accessed August 21, 2023) For those with cleft palate who have opening in the palate, refer to the Coverage Summary titled Dental Services, Oral Surgery, and Treatment of Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ).
Orthopedic Shoes	Corrective Appliance/ Orthotic	Coverage criteria apply. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, § 290 – Foot Care and Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §140 - Therapeutic Shoes for Individuals with Diabetes. Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)/Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) exist and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Therapeutic Shoes for Persons with Diabetes (L33369). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Ostomy Supplies	Prosthetic	Colostomy (and other ostomy) bags and necessary accouterments required for attachment are covered as prosthetic devices. This coverage also includes irrigation and flushing equipment and other items and supplies directly related to ostomy care, whether the attachment of a bag is required. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, § 120 – Prosthetic Devices. For **coverage guidelines**, refer to the DME MAC LCD for Ostomy Supplies (L33828). (Accessed August 21, 2023)

Item	Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Other Non-covered Items	Not covered	Examples of items that are not primarily medical in nature, does not meet the definition of DME and/or are personal comfort items, include but are not limited to: • Air Cleaner/Purifier. • Air Conditioner Bathtub Lifts and Seats. • Bed Baths (home type). • Bed Boards. • Bed Lifter (bed elevator). • Braille Teaching Text. • Carafes. • Commode - elevated seat (raised toilet seat). • Dehumidifier (room or central heating system type). • Electrostatic Machines. • Elevators. • Emesis Basin. • Esophageal Dilator. • Exercise Equipment (e.g., barbells, all types of tricycles). • Grab Bars (for bath and toilet). • Heat and Massage Foam Cushion Pads. • Heater (portable room heater). • Heating and Cooling Plants. • Injectors (hypodermic jet pressure powered injectors. • Leotard (pressure garment). • Massage Devices. • Parallel Bars. • Pulse Tachometer. • Sauna Baths. • Stair Lifts/Stair Elevator. • Shower/Bathtub Seat. • Speech Teaching Machines. • Standing Tables/Standing Frame System (Includes Easy Stand, Tilt Stand and Mobile Stander). • Telephone Alert System. • Toilet Seat, Elevated Bidet. • Treadmill Exerciser. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). • Back Support (posture chair). • Bed Wetting Alarm. • Breast Pump (Electric or Manual). • Commode - Chair Foot Rest.

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Other Non-covered Items		Not covered	• Gait Belt. • Spirometer. • Vitrectomy Face Support (Positioning Pillow). • Wig/Hairpiece. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.1 – Definition of DME. • Jacuzzi .. • Personal or Comfort Items • Telephone Arms/Cradle. • Transfer Bench (for tub or toilet). • Vehicle/Trunk Modification. • Walk-in bathtub/showers. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 16, §80 – Personal Comfort Items. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Oxygen and oxygen equipment			For coverage criteria, refer to the National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Home Use of Oxygen (240.2). Also refer to the DME MAC LCD for Oxygen and Oxygen Equipment (L33797). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Pacemaker Monitors, Self-Contained (Audible/Visible Signal or Digital Electronic)		DME	Coverage criteria apply. Refer to the Coverage Summary titled Cardiac Procedures: Pacemakers, Pulmonary Artery Pressure Measurements, Ventricular Assistive Devices, Valve Repair, and Valve Replacements.
Paraffin Bath Unit	Portable	DME	Covered when the patient has undergone a successful trial period of paraffin therapy ordered by a physician and the patient's condition is expected to be relieved by a long term use of this modality. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Standard	Not covered	Institutional equipment; not appropriate for home use. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Patient Lift			See Lifts.
Peak Expiratory Flow Meter, hand-held		Medical Supply*	For the self-monitoring of patients with pure asthma when used as part of a comprehensive asthma management program. HCPCS code A4614; listed in the July 2014 DMEPOS Fee Schedule under payment class IN (inexpensive or other routinely purchased items). Inexpensive or other routinely purchased DME is defined as equipment with a purchase price not exceeding $150, or equipment that the Secretary determines is acquired by purchase at least 75 percent of the time, or equipment that is an accessory used in conjunction with a nebulizer, aspirator, or ventilators that are either continuous airway pressure devices or intermittent assist devices with continuous

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Peak Expiratory Flow Meter, hand-held		Medical Supply*	airway pressure devices. Suppliers and providers other than HHAs bill the DMERC or, in the case of implanted DME only, the local carrier. Refer to the following sections of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 20: • §30.1 – Inexpensive or Other Routinely Purchased DME. • §130.2 – Billing for Inexpensive or Other Routinely Purchased DME. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Penile Prosthesis		Prosthetic	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Diagnosis and Treatment of Impotence (230.4). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Percussor (Non-Vest type)	Electric or pneumatic, home model	DME	Covered for mobilizing respiratory tract secretions in patients with chronic obstructive lung disease, chronic bronchitis or emphysema, when patient or operator of powered percussor has received appropriate training by a physician or therapist, and no one competent to administer manual therapy is available. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023) For ThAIRapy® Vest System, see High Frequency Chest Wall Oscillation Devices.
	Intrapulmonary Percussive Ventilator (IPV)	Not covered	No data to support the effectiveness of the device in the home setting. Refer to the NCD for Intrapulmonary Percussive Ventilator (IPV) (240.5). Also refer to the DME MAC LCD for Intrapulmonary Percussive Ventilation System (L33786). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Pessary		Medical Supply*	Covered when performed as part of the physician services. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §60.1 – Services and Supplies Incident To Physician's Professional Services. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Pneumatic Compression Devices Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	For the treatment of lymphedema or chronic venous insufficiency with venous stasis ulcer	DME	Pneumatic devices are covered for the treatment of lymphedema or for the treatment of chronic venous insufficiency with venous stasis ulcers. Coverage criteria apply; refer to the: • NCD for Pneumatic Compression Devices (280.6). • DME MAC LCD for Pneumatic Compression Devices (L33829). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	For the prevention of illnesses/disease including deep vein thrombosis (DVT)	Not covered	Pneumatic compression devices (E0676 and A4600) for the prevention of illnesses/disease including DVT are not covered. Devices for the prevention of disease or illness are statutorily non-covered under Social Security Act §1862(a)(1)(A). Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 16, §20 – Services Not Reasonable and Necessary.

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Pneumatic Compression Devices Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	For the prevention of illnesses/disease including deep vein thrombosis (DVT)	Not covered	For the treatment of lymphedema or for the treatment of chronic insufficiency of the lower extremity, refer to the NCD for Pneumatic Compression Devices (280.6). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	For the treatment of peripheral arterial disease	Not covered	Medicare does not have a National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Pneumatic Compression Devices used to treat Peripheral Arterial Disease. Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)/Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) exist for all states/territories and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. For specific LCDs/LCAs, refer to LCD for Pneumatic Compression Devices (L33829). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Pneumatic Splints			See AFO/KAFO.
Porcine (Pig) Skin Dressings			Coverage criteria apply. Refer to the Coverage Summary titled Wound Treatments.
Postural Drainage Boards		DME	For members with chronic pulmonary condition. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Power Mobility Devices			See Mobility Assistive Equipment.
Power Operated Vehicles (POV)/Scooters			See Mobility Assistive Equipment.
Power traction equipment/devices (e.g., VAX-D®, DRX9000, SpineMED™, Spina System™, Lordex® Decompression Unit, DRS System™)			See Traction Equipment.
Protector, heel or elbow		Medical Supply*	Not covered as DME; billed as part of an inpatient hospital or SNF care or as incident to a physician's service. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §60.1 - Incident To Physician's Professional Services. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Pulse Oximeter		Not covered	Oximeters (E0445) and replacement probes (A4606) will be denied as non-covered because they are monitoring devices that provide information to physicians to assist in managing the member's treatment. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Oxygen and Oxygen Equipment (L33797). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Pumps, including medications and necessary supplies Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	Enteral		See Nutritional Therapy.
	Infusion	DME	Coverage criteria apply. Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)/Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) exist and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. Refer to the: • NCD for Infusion Pumps (280.14). • DME MAC LCD for External Infusion Pumps (L33794). (Accessed August 21, 2023)

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Pumps, including medications and necessary supplies Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	Insulin, external	DME	External continuous subcutaneous insulin infusion (CSII) pump and related drugs and supplies are covered when coverage criteria are met. Refer to the NCD for Infusion Pumps (280.14). Also refer to DME MAC LCD External Infusion Pumps (L33794). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Insulin, implantable	Not covered	Refer to the NCD for Infusion Pumps (280.14). Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)/Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) exist and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. These LCDs/LCAs are available at https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/new-search/search.aspx. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Lymphedema	DME	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the NCD for Pneumatic Compression Devices (280.6). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Pain Control	DME	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the Coverage Summary titled Pain Management.
	Parenteral		See Nutritional Therapy.
	Negative Pressure Wound		See Vacuum Assisted Closure Device.
	For Erectile Dysfunction		See Vacuum Pump.
Punctal Plug		Medical Supply*	For treatment of dry eyes. Refer to the: • Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §60.1 – Incident To Physician's Professional Services. • CGS LCD for Nasal Punctum-Nasolacrimal Duct Dilation and Probing with or without Irrigation (L34171). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
PureWick™ Urine Collection System (HCPCS code K1006)			Refer to the Coverage Summary titled Urinary and Fecal Incontinence, Diagnosis and Treatments.
Recliner (chair)		DME	Member must be on home dialysis. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 11, §20.4 (A)(1) Equipment and Supplies. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Reflectance Colorimeters			See Blood Glucose Analyzer-reflectance Colorimeter.
Respirators			See Ventilators.
Respiratory Assist Devices (RADs)		DME	Coverage criteria apply. Refer to the Coverage Summary titled Sleep Apnea Diagnosis and Treatment for coverage guidelines.
Rolling Chair/Roll-about Chair (Geriatric Chair) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		DME	Covered if member meets Mobility Assistive Equipment clinical criteria. Coverage is limited to those roll-about chairs having casters of at least 5 inches in diameter and officially designed to meet the needs of ill, injured, or otherwise impaired individuals.

Item	Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Rolling Chair/Roll-about Chair (Geriatric Chair) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	DME	Not covered for the wide range of chairs with smaller casters as are found in general use in homes, offices, and institutions for many purposes not related to the care/treatment of ill/injured persons. This type is not primarily medical in nature. Refer to the: • NCD for Mobility Assistive Equipment (MAE) (280.3). • NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Safety Rollers		See Mobility Assistive Equipment.
Scleral Shell Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	Prosthetic	Scleral shell (or shield) is a catchall term for different types of hard scleral contact lenses. Scleral shell may be covered as prosthetic when: Used as an artificial eye when the eye has been rendered sightless and shrunken by inflammatory disease; or Used in combination with artificial tears in the treatment of "dry eye" of diverse etiology. Refer to the NCD for Scleral Shell (80.5). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Self-Contained Pacemaker Monitors		See Pacemaker Monitors.
Scoliosis Orthosis		See Spinal Orthosis/CTLSO and TLSO.
Shoes • Inserts/Orthotics. • Orthopedic. • Prosthetic. • Therapeutic (e.g., diabetic shoes).	Corrective Appliance/ Orthotic	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, § 290 – Foot Care and Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §140 - Therapeutic Shoes for Individuals with Diabetes. Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)/Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) exist and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Therapeutic Shoes for Persons with Diabetes (L33369). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Sitz Bath (portable)	DME	Covered if patient has an infection or injury of the perineal area and the item has been prescribed by the patient's physician as a part of his planned regimen of treatment in the patient's home. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Sleep Apnea Device		See Mandibular Device.
Slings	Medical Supply*	Used to support and limit motion of an injured upper arm. Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §60.1 – Incident To Physician's Professional Services. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Speech Generating Device	DME	Coverage criteria apply. Refer to the NCD for Speech Generating Devices (50.1).

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Speech Generating Device		DME	**For additional coverage and coding information**, refer to the DME MAC LCD for Speech Generating Devices (SGD) (L33739). Compliance with these policies is required where appropriate. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Spinal Orthosis (body jacket) • Cervical-thoracic-lumbar sacral orthosis (CTLSO) • Lumbar Orthosis (LO) • Lumbar-sacral orthosis (LSO) • Thoracic-lumbar-sacral orthosis (TLSO) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		Corrective Appliance/ Orthotic	Coverage criteria apply. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Spinal Orthoses: TLSO and LSO (L33790). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Splints	Bi-directional static progressive stretch splinting (HCPCS Codes E1801, E1806, E1811, E1816, E1818, E1831, E1841) • Static progressive (SP) stretch (splinting) devices, e.g., Joint Active Systems (JAS) • Patient-actuated serial stretch (PASS), e.g., ERMI system	Not covered	Medicare does not have a National Coverage Determination (NCD) for bi-directional static progressive stretch splinting. Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)/Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) do not exist at this time. For **coverage guidelines**, refer to the UnitedHealthcare Commercial Medical Policy titled Mechanical Stretching Devices. **Note**: After searching the Medicare Coverage Database, if no LCD/LCA is found, then use the policy referenced above for coverage guidelines. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Dental (Only for TMJ)	Medical Supply*	Coverage criteria apply. Refer to the Coverage Summary titled Dental Services, Oral Surgery, and Treatment of Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ).
	Low-load prolonged-duration stretch (LLPS) devices such as the Dynasplint System (HCPCS codes E1800, E1810, E1812, E1815, E1830)	DME	Medicare does not have a National Coverage Determination (NCD) for low-load prolonged-duration stretch (LLPS) devices such as the Dynasplint System. Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)/Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) do not exist at this time. For **coverage guidelines**, refer to the UnitedHealthcare Commercial Medical Policy titled Mechanical Stretching Devices. **Note**: After searching the Medicare Coverage Database, if no LCD/LCA is found, then use the policy referenced above for coverage guidelines. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Foot (e.g., Denis-Browne) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	Corrective Appliance/ Orthotic	Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Orthopedic Footwear (L33641). Also refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §130 – Leg, Arm, Back, and Neck Braces, Trusses, and Artificial Legs, Arms, and Eyes. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Wrist/Hand/Finger	Corrective Appliance/ Orthotic	For mild sprains, strains and carpal tunnel conditions. Custom molded covered only when member cannot be fitted with the prefabricated wrist/hand/finger/splint/brace.

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Splints	Wrist/Hand/Finger	Corrective Appliance/ Orthotic	Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §130 – Leg, Arm, Back, and Neck Braces, Trusses, and Artificial Legs, Arms, and Eyes. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Stair Lift			See Lifts.
Steam Packs			See Heating Pads (Covered under the same condition as heating pads).
Stockings	Gradient Compression Stockings, below knee	Prosthetic	Covered when used to secure a primary dressing over an open venous stasis ulcer that has been treated by a physician or other healthcare professional requiring medically necessary debridement or treatment of a wound caused by, or treated by, a surgical procedure. Refer to the: • DME MAC LCD for Surgical Dressings (L33831). • Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §100 – Surgical Dressings, Splints, Casts, and Other Devices Used for Reductions of Fractures and Dislocations. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Gradient Pressure Dressings (e.g., Jobst elasticized heavy duty stockings)	Prosthetic	Covered when used to reduce hypertrophic scarring and joint contractures following burn injury. Refer to the NCD for Porcine Skin and Gradient Pressure Dressings (270.5). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Stump Socks			See Artificial Limbs.
Suction Pump or Machine Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		DME	Covered for members who have difficulty raising and clearing secretions secondary to one of the following: 1) Cancer or surgery of the throat or mouth 2) Dysfunction of the swallowing muscles 3) Unconsciousness or obtunded state 4) Tracheostomy. Must be appropriate for use without professional supervision. Refer to the: • DME MAC LCD for Suction Pumps (L33612). • NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Surgical Boot		Medical Supply*	Also known as ambulatory boot. Refer to the: • Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §100 – Surgical Dressings, Splints, Casts, and Other Devices Used for Reductions of Fractures and Dislocations. • Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §60.1 – Incident To Physician's Professional Services. (Accessed August 21, 2023)

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Sykes Hernia Control		Corrective Appliance/ Orthotic	Coverage criteria apply. Refer to the NCD for Sykes Hernia Control (280.12). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
TENS Unit/Muscle Stimulator			See Electrical Stimulation Devices.
ThAIRapy® Vest System			See High Frequency Chest Wall Oscillation Devices (HFCWO).
Thoracic-lumbar-sacral Orthosis (TLSO)			See Spinal Orthosis.
TMJ Splint			See Splints.
Toe Filler		Prosthetic	Refer to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, § 290 – Foot Care. Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)/Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) exist and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. These LCDs/LCAs are available at https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/search.aspx. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Tracheostomy	Speaking Valve and Tubes	Prosthetic	A trachea tube has been determined to satisfy the definition of a prosthetic device, and the tracheostomy speaking valve is an add-on to the trachea tube which may be considered a medically necessary accessory that enhances the function of the tube, which makes the system a better prosthesis. As such, a tracheostomy speaking valve is covered as an element of the trachea tube which makes the tube more effective. Refer to the NCD for Tracheostomy Speaking Valve (50.4). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Care Kit (Initial and Replacements)	Prosthetic	A tracheostomy care or cleaning started kit is covered for a member following an open surgical tracheostomy up to 2 weeks post-operatively. Replacement kits are covered at one per day only. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Tracheostomy Care Supplies (L33832). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Traction Equipment Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	General Coverage Guidelines	DME	Covered if patient has orthopedic impairment requiring traction equipment that prevents ambulation during the period of use (Consider covering devices usable during ambulation; e.g., cervical traction collar, under the brace provision). Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Cervical (Over-the-Door or Cervical Portable Traction Unit	DME	Covered if **both of the following** criteria are met: • The patient has a musculoskeletal or neurologic impairment requiring traction equipment; and • The appropriate use of a home cervical traction device has been demonstrated to the patient and the patient tolerated the selected device.

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Traction Equipment Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	Cervical (Over-the-Door or Cervical Portable Traction Unit	DME	Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Cervical Traction Devices (L33823). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Cervical attached to headboard	Not covered	No proven clinical advantage compared to over-the-door traction mechanism. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Cervical Traction Devices (L33823). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Cervical, not requiring additional stand or frame (e.g., Orthotrac Pneumatic Vest or Pronex)	Not covered	No proven clinical advantage compared to over-the-door traction mechanism. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Cervical Traction Devices (L33823). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Freestanding Traction Stand	Not covered	No proven clinical advantage compared to over-the-door traction. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Cervical Traction Devices (L33823). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Pneumatic, Free-Standing Cervical, Free-Standing Stand/Frame. Applying traction force to other than mandible (e.g., Saunders Home Trac)	DME	Covered if member meets criteria for over-the-door traction unit and one of the following 3 criteria are met: • The treating physician orders greater than 20 pounds of cervical traction in the home setting; or, • The member has: ○ A diagnosis of temporomandibular joint (TMJ) dysfunction; and ○ Received treatment for the TMJ condition; or • The member has distortion of the lower jaw or neck anatomy (e.g., radical neck dissection) such that a chin halter is unable to be utilized. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Cervical Traction Devices (L33823). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
	Power traction equipment/devices (e.g., VAX-D®, DRX9000, SpineMED™, Spina System™, Lordex® Decompression Unit, DRS System™	Not covered	Refer to the NCD for Vertebral Axial Decompression (VAX-D) and Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 16, §20 – Services Not Reasonable and Necessary and §10 - General Exclusions from Coverage. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Transfer (Sliding) Board		DME	Covered when part of an authorized treatment plan necessary to treat an illness or injury.
Trapeze Bar Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		DME	A trapeze bar attached to a bed is covered if the patient has a covered hospital bed and the patient needs this device to sit up because of a respiratory condition, to change body position for other medical reasons, or to get in or out of bed. Not covered when used on an ordinary bed. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023) Also see Hospital Beds and Accessories.

Item	Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Truss	Corrective Appliance/ Orthotic	Covered as prosthetic when used as a holder for surgical dressings or for lumbar strains, sprains or hernia. Refer to the: • Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §120 – Prosthetic Devices and §130 Leg, Arm, Back, and Neck Braces, Trusses, and Artificial Legs, Arms, and Eyes. • NCD for Corset Used as Hernia Support (280.11). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Ultraviolet Cabinet Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	DME	Covered for selected patients with generalized intractable psoriasis. Using appropriate consultation, the contractor should determine whether medical and other factors justify treatment at home rather than at alternative sites, e.g., outpatient department of a hospital. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Unna Boot/Strapping	Medical Supply*	Generally used to treat chronic ulcers that are usually caused by varicosities of the leg. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Surgical Dressings (L33831). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Urinal (autoclavable)	DME	If member is confined to bed. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Urinary Drainage Bags	Prosthetic	Urinary collection and retention system that replace bladder function in the case of permanent urinary incontinence are covered as prosthetic devices. There is insufficient evidence to support the medical necessity of a single use system bag rather than the multi-use bag. Therefore, a single use drainage system is subject to the same coverage parameters as the multi-use drainage bags. Refer to the NCD for Urinary Drainage Bags (230.17). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Urological Supplies		See Catheters and Supplies.
Vacuum Assisted Closure Device (VAC) or Negative Pressure Wound Therapy Pump	DME	Coverage criteria apply; refer to the DME MAC LCD for Negative Pressure Wound Therapy Pumps (L33821). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Vacuum Pump or Device (e.g., ErecAid)	Not covered	Vacuum erection devices and related accessories are statutorily non-covered based on the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act of 2014. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Vacuum Erection Devices (VED) (L34824). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Vaporizers	DME	Only for members with a respiratory illness. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Ventilators (including supplies) (HCPCS codes E0465, E0466 and E0467) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		DME	Covered for treatment of neuromuscular diseases, thoracic restrictive diseases, and chronic respiratory failure consequent to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Includes both positive and negative pressure types. **Coding and Billing Clarification** (**Note**: For coverage requirements, refer to the applicable NCD and available LCDs, and Palmetto GBA PDAC Advisory Articles.): • **HCPCS codes E0465 and E0466**: Products currently classified as HCPCS code E0465 or E0466 when used to provide CPAP or bi-level PAP (with or without backup rate) therapy, regardless of the underlying medical condition, shall not be paid in the FSS payment category. A ventilator is not eligible for reimbursement for any of the conditions described in the Respiratory Assist Devices (RAD) LCD even though the ventilator equipment may have the capability of operating in a bi-level PAP (E0470, E0471) mode. Claims for ventilators used to provide CPAP or bi-level CPAP therapy for conditions described in this RAD policy (e.g., Trilogy) will be denied as not reasonable and necessary. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Respiratory Assist Devices (L33800) and Palmetto GBA PDAC Correct Coding and Coverage of Ventilators - Advisory Article. • **HCPCS code E0467**: Medicare's multi-function ventilator policy applies to members who are prescribed and meet the medical necessity coverage criteria for a ventilator and at least one of the four additional functions (namely, oxygen concentrator, cough stimulator, suction pump, and nebulizer). HCPCS code E0467 is used to describe multi-function ventilators. For detailed coding and billing information, refer to the CMS Medicare Learning Network (MLN) (SE20012). **Note**: Using the HCPCS codes for CPAP (E0601) or bi-level PAP (E0470, E0471) devices for a ventilator (E0465, E0466, or E0467) used to provide CPAP or bi-level PAP therapy is incorrect coding. Refer to the DME MAC LCD for Respiratory Assist Devices (L33800) and Palmetto GBA PDAC Correct Coding and Coverage of Ventilators - Advisory Article. (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Walkers		DME	See Mobility Assistive Equipment.
Wheelchairs (manual, motorized, power operated, scooters, POVs, specially sized) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	General Coverage Guidelines	DME	See Mobility Assistive Equipment.
	Ramp for wheelchair	Not covered	See Mobility Assistive Equipment.
	Seat Elevator for PWC	DME	Coverage criteria apply for Group 2 power wheelchair with power options that can accommodate rehabilitative features (for example, tilt in space) or Group 3 power wheelchair; refer to the NCD for Seat Elevation Equipment (Power Operated) on Power Wheelchairs (280.16).

Item		Coverage	Guidelines/Notes
Wheelchairs (manual, motorized, power operated, scooters, POVs, specially sized) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.	Seat Elevator for PWC	DME	(Accessed August 21, 2023)
Whirlpool Bath Equipment (standard/non-portable) Refer to the Face-to-Face Requirement.		DME	Covered if patient is homebound and has a (standard) condition for which the whirlpool bath can be expected to provide substantial therapeutic benefit justifying its cost. Where patient is not homebound but has such a condition, payment is restricted to the cost of providing the services elsewhere; e.g., an outpatient department of a participating hospital, if that alternative is less costly. In all cases, refer claim to medical staff for a determination. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Whirlpool Pump (portable)		Not covered	Not primarily medical in nature. Refer to the NCD for Durable Medical Equipment Reference List (280.1). (Accessed August 21, 2023)
Wrist splint			See Splints.

Definitions

Corrective Appliances/Orthotic: Devices that are designed to support a weakened body part. (These appliances are manufactured or custom-fitted to an individual member. This definition does not include foot orthotics or specialized footwear which may be covered for member with diabetic foot disease.) Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 20, §10.1.3 – Prosthetics and Orthotics (Leg, Arm, Back, and Neck Braces, Trusses, and Artificial Legs, Arms, and Eyes) – Coverage Definition.

Durable Medical Equipment (DME): Equipment that can withstand repeated use, is primarily and customarily used to serve a medical purpose, generally is not useful to a person in the absence of an illness or injury, and is appropriate for use in the home. Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.1 – Definition of Durable Medical Equipment.

Implantable Devices: Defined by the FDA as a device that is placed into a surgically or naturally formed cavity of the human body if the device is intended to remain there for a period of 30 days or more. In order to protect public health, the FDA may determine that devices placed in subjects for shorter periods of time are also implants. According to Medicare, these devices are used as an integral and subordinate part of the procedure performed, are used for one patient only, are single use, come in contact with human tissue, and are surgically implanted or inserted whether or not they remain with the patient when the patient is released from the hospital outpatient department. The following are not considered to be implantable devices: sutures, customized surgical kits, or clips, other than radiological site markers, furnished incident to a service or procedure. They are also not materials such as biologicals or synthetics that may be used to replace human skin. FDA – Medical Devices, IDE Definitions and Acronyms and Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 4, §60.3 – Devices Eligible for Transitional Pass-Through Payments.

Member's Home: For the purposes of rental and purchase of DME, the member's home may be his own dwelling, an apartment, a relative's home, a home for the aged, or some other type of institution. However, an institution may not be considered the member's home if it:

- Meets at least the basic requirement in the definition of a hospital (i.e., it is primarily engaged in providing, by or under the supervision of physicians, to inpatients, diagnostic and therapeutic services for medical diagnosis, treatment, and care of injured, disabled and sick persons, or rehabilitation services for the rehabilitation of injured, disabled or sick persons).
- Meets at least the basic requirement in the definition of a skilled nursing facility (i.e., it is primarily engaged in providing skilled nursing care and related services to inpatients who require medical or nursing care, or rehabilitation services for the rehabilitation of injured, disabled or sick persons).

Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §110.1 – Definition of Durable Medical Equipment (4) (D).

Prosthetic Device: Articles or equipment, other than dental, that replace all or part of an internal body organ (including contiguous tissue) or replace all or part of the function of a permanently inoperative or malfunctioning internal body organ. In this policy the test of permanence is met if the medical record, including the judgment of the attending physician, indicates that the member's condition is of long and indefinite duration. Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, §120 – Prosthetic Devices. (Accessed August 21, 2023)

Policy History/Revision Information

Date	Summary of Changes

09/13/2023	**Template Update**
	• Updated *Instructions for Use*
	Coverage Guidelines
	DME, Prosthetic, Corrective Appliance/Orthotic and Medical Supplies Grid
	Artificial Limbs-Upper Limb
	• Updated item description/sub-classification; replaced "myoelectric" with "myoelectric (lower limb)"
	Blood Glucose Monitors *and* Diabetic Supplies
	• Added language to indicate home blood glucose monitors and supplies (e.g., blood testing strips and lancets, replacement batteries) are covered are covered when coverage criteria are met; refer to the:
	  ○ National Coverage Determination (NCD) for *Home Blood Glucose Monitors (NCD 40.2)*
	  ○ DME Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) Local Coverage Determination (LCD) for *Glucose Monitors (L33822)* for guidelines on the appropriate quantities of strips and lancets
	• Removed reference link to the UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary titled *Diabetes Management, Equipment and Supplies*
	Chemical Test Strips
	• Added instruction to refer to the National Coverage Determination (NCD) for *Home Blood Glucose Monitors (40.2)* for coverage criteria
	• Removed reference link to the UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary titled *Diabetes Management, Equipment and Supplies*
	Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) Device or System
	• Added instruction to refer to the DME MAC LCD for *Glucose Monitors (L33822)*
	• Removed reference link to the UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary titled *Diabetes Management, Equipment and Supplies*

Date	Summary of Changes

	Insulin Pump, including Insulin and Necessary Supplies
	• Added instruction to refer to the following NCDs for coverage criteria:
	  ○ *Insulin Syringe (40.4)*
	  ○ *Infusion Pumps (280.14)*
	• Removed reference link to the UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary titled *Diabetes Management, Equipment and Supplies*
	Pumps – Insulin (External)
	• Added language to indicate external continuous subcutaneous insulin infusion (CSII) pump and related drugs and supplies are covered when coverage criteria are met; refer to the:
	  ○ NCD for *Infusion Pumps (280.14)*
	  ○ DME MAC LCD for *External Infusion Pumps (L33794)*
	• Removed reference link to the UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Coverage Summary titled *Diabetes Management, Equipment and Supplies*
	Splints – Low-Load Prolonged-Duration Stretch (LLPS) Devices
	• Updated list of applicable HCPCS codes; removed E1802, E1805, E1825, and E1840
	Supporting Information
	• Archived previous policy version MCS028.13

Instructions for Use

This information is being distributed to you for personal reference. The information belongs to UnitedHealthcare and unauthorized copying, use, and distribution are prohibited. This information is intended to serve only as a general reference resource and is not intended to address every aspect of a clinical situation. Physicians and patients should not rely on this information in making health care decisions. Physicians and patients must exercise their independent clinical discretion and judgment in determining care. Each benefit plan contains its own specific provisions for coverage, limitations, and exclusions as stated in the Member's Evidence of Coverage (EOC)/Summary of Benefits (SB). If there is a discrepancy between this policy and the member's EOC/SB, the member's EOC/SB provision will govern. The information contained in this document is believed to be current as of the date noted.

The benefit information in this Coverage Summary is based on existing national coverage policy; however, Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) may exist and compliance with these policies are required where applicable.

UnitedHealthcare follows Medicare coverage guidelines found in statutes, regulations, NCDs, and LCDs to determine coverage. The clinical coverage criteria governing the items or services in this coverage summary have not been fully established in applicable Medicare guidelines because there is an absence of any applicable Medicare statutes, regulations, NCDs, or LCDs setting forth coverage criteria and/or the applicable NCDs or LCDs include flexibility that explicitly allows for coverage in circumstances beyond the specific indications that are listed in an NCD or LCD. As a result, UnitedHealthcare applies internal coverage criteria in the UnitedHealthcare commercial policies referenced in this coverage summary. The coverage criteria in these commercial policies was developed through an evaluation of the current relevant clinical evidence in acceptable clinical literature and/or widely used treatment guidelines. UnitedHealthcare evaluated the evidence to determine whether it was of sufficient quality to support a finding that the items or services discussed in the policy might, under certain circumstances, be reasonable and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of illness or injury or to improve the functioning of a malformed body member.

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