

# Speech Generating Devices

**Policy Number:** DME 040.11  
**Effective Date:** January 1, 2025

[➔ Instructions for Use](#)

Table of Contents	Page
<a href="#">Coverage Rationale</a> .....	1
<a href="#">Medical Records Documentation Used for Reviews</a> .....	1
<a href="#">Applicable Codes</a> .....	1
<a href="#">Benefit Considerations</a> .....	2
<a href="#">References</a> .....	2
<a href="#">Policy History/Revision Information</a> .....	2
<a href="#">Instructions for Use</a> .....	2

- Related Policies**
- [Durable Medical Equipment, Orthotics, Medical Supplies, and Repairs/Replacements](#)
  - [Habilitation and Rehabilitation \(Occupational, Physical, and Speech Therapy\)](#)

## Coverage Rationale

[➔ See Benefit Considerations](#)

For medical necessity clinical coverage criteria, refer to the InterQual® CP: Durable Medical Equipment, Speech Generating Devices (SGD).

[Click here to view the InterQual® criteria.](#)

## Medical Records Documentation Used for Reviews

Benefit coverage for health services is determined by the member specific benefit plan document and applicable laws that may require coverage for a specific service. Medical records documentation may be required to assess whether the member meets the clinical criteria for coverage but does not guarantee coverage of the service requested; refer to the protocol titled [Medical Records Documentation Used for Reviews](#).

## Applicable Codes

The following list(s) of procedure and/or diagnosis codes is provided for reference purposes only and may not be all inclusive. Listing of a code in this policy does not imply that the service described by the code is a covered or non-covered health service. Benefit coverage for health services is determined by the member specific benefit plan document and applicable laws that may require coverage for a specific service. The inclusion of a code does not imply any right to reimbursement or guarantee claim payment. Other Policies may apply.

HCPCS Code	Description
E2500	Speech generating device, digitized speech, using prerecorded messages, less than or equal to eight minutes recording time
E2502	Speech generating device, digitized speech, using prerecorded messages, greater than 8 minutes but less than or equal to 20 minutes recording time
E2504	Speech generating device, digitized speech, using prerecorded messages, greater than 20 minutes but less than or equal to 40 minutes recording time
E2506	Speech generating device, digitized speech, using prerecorded messages, greater than 40 minutes recording time
E2508	Speech generating device, synthesized speech, requiring message formulation by spelling and access by physical contact with the device

HCPSC Code	Description
E2510	Speech generating device, synthesized speech, permitting multiple methods of message formulation and multiple methods of device access
E2511	Speech generating software program, for personal computer or personal digital assistant
E2512	Accessory for speech generating device, mounting system
E2599	Accessory for speech generating device, not otherwise classified

## Benefit Considerations

The following benefit considerations may not apply to all plans. Refer to the member specific benefit plan document for applicable benefit considerations.

### Speech Generating Devices

Durable medical equipment benefits include dedicated speech generating devices required for treatment of severe speech impairment or lack of speech directly due to Sickness or Injury. Examples include but are not limited to:

- Freedom
- Prentke Romich (or PRC)
- Say-it!™
- Tobii Dynavox

### Repair, Replacement, and Upgrade

Refer to the Clinical Policy titled [Durable Medical Equipment, Orthotics, Medical Supplies, and Repairs/Replacements](#).

### Coverage Limitations and Exclusions

Repairs and replacement due to misuse, malicious damage, or gross neglect or to replace lost or stolen items.

**Note:** Most benefit plans require a 3-month rental period before a purchase can be made.

## References

The foregoing Oxford policy has been adapted from an existing UnitedHealthcare national policy that was researched, developed and approved by UnitedHealthcare Medical Policy Committee. [MP.038.10].

## Policy History/Revision Information

Date	Summary of Changes
01/01/2025	<p><b>Medical Records Documentation Used for Reviews</b> (<i>previously titled Documentation Requirements</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replaced list of <i>Required Clinical Information</i> with instruction to refer to the protocol titled <a href="#">Medical Records Documentation Used for Reviews</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Supporting Information</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Archived previous policy version DME 040.10</li> </ul>

## Instructions for Use

This Clinical Policy provides assistance in interpreting UnitedHealthcare Oxford standard benefit plans. When deciding coverage, the member specific benefit plan document must be referenced as the terms of the member specific benefit plan may differ from the standard plan. In the event of a conflict, the member specific benefit plan document governs. Before using this policy, please check the member specific benefit plan document and any applicable federal or state mandates. UnitedHealthcare Oxford reserves the right to modify its Policies as necessary. This Clinical Policy is provided for informational purposes. It does not constitute medical advice.

The term Oxford includes Oxford Health Plans, LLC and all of its subsidiaries as appropriate for these policies. Unless otherwise stated, Oxford policies do not apply to Medicare Advantage members.

UnitedHealthcare may also use tools developed by third parties, such as the InterQual® criteria, to assist us in administering health benefits. UnitedHealthcare Oxford Clinical Policies are intended to be used in connection with the independent professional medical judgment of a qualified health care provider and do not constitute the practice of medicine or medical advice.