

Medicare: Hierarchy for Applying Coverage Decisions for Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

DME.AD.104.A
v1.0.2022

Medicare Background

eviCore healthcare follows Medicare rules when applying coverage decisions for durable medical equipment under Medicare Advantage plans.

Reasonable and Necessary Service

Medicare defines services as reasonable and necessary when they lead to any of the following:

- Diagnosis or treatment of an illness
- Diagnosis or treatment of an injury
- Improvement of the functionality of a malformed body member

Medicare Criteria Hierarchy

When making medical necessity determinations for Medicare members, eviCore will employ the following strategy for both utilization management case reviews and automated claim edit application:

- Medicare Benefit Policy Manual
- National Coverage Determinations (NCDs)
- Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs and LCAs)
- Proprietary guidelines including
 - MCG™ evidence-based Care Guidelines®
 - eviCore guidelines
- Society/Peer reviewed literature

References

1. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Medicare Claims Processing Manual: Chapter 16 – Laboratory Services. Available at:

<https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Downloads/clm104c16.pdf>.

2. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Medicare Coverage Database. Available at: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/new-search/search.aspx>.
3. Medicare program integrity manual. Available at: <https://www.cms.gov/regulations-and-guidance/guidance/manuals/internet-only-manuals-ioms-items/cms019033.html>
4. Medicare managed care manual. Available at: <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Internet-Only-Manuals-IOMs-Items/CMS019326.html>