

Durable Medical Equipment (DME) General Criteria

DME.AD.100.A
v2.0.2024

HCPCS Codes

All

DME, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies - General Criteria

Clinical Information to Establish Medical Necessity

Current clinical information is necessary for determining the medical necessity of durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics and supplies including **all** of the following:

- Information provided has clinical relevance to the request
- A pertinent clinical evaluation, or meaningful technological contact (telehealth visit, telephone call, electronic mail or messaging) is required including **both**:
 - A relevant history and physical (symptoms, laboratory results, imaging reports)
 - Medical treatments relevant to the request (medication records, therapy records)

Medical necessity cannot be supported if the provided information makes no reference to the indication for the request.

Requests for equipment when same or similar equipment has already been placed is not supported without clear documentation that fulfills guideline criteria.

Base DME Items and Accessories: When medical necessity for a base item of durable medical equipment has not been met, any accessories that are requested to use with the base item are also not considered medically necessary.

Same or Similar DME, Prosthetics, and Orthotics

Overutilization of durable medical equipment, prosthetics and orthotics occurs when HCPCS codes for same or similar devices are requested in one case or within a short time frame. This can result in unnecessary duplication. As an example, two oxygen concentrators that have the same purpose have been requested at the same time when only one is medically necessary.

Same or Similar Durable Medical Equipment

Duplication of same or similar durable medical equipment, prosthetics and orthotics within the same case is not medically necessary.

Same or similar durable medical equipment, prosthetics and orthotics may only be indicated when **one** of the following applies:

- The individual has a change in medical condition resulting in the need for a new device
- The individual has a new medical diagnosis resulting in the need for an additional device
- Medical necessity criteria for replacement have been met

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