

Hospital Beds

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Health Equity Considerations

Health equity is the highest level of health for all individuals; health inequity is the avoidable difference in health status or distribution of health resources due to the social conditions in which individuals are born, grow, live, work, and age.

Social determinants of health are the conditions in the environment that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality of life outcomes and risks. Examples include the following: safe housing, transportation, and neighborhoods; racism, discrimination, and violence; education, job opportunities, and income; access to nutritious foods and physical activity opportunities; access to clean air and water; and language and literacy skills.

Hospital Beds - Criteria

Fixed Height Hospital Bed

HCPCS (E0250, E0261, E0290, E0291, E0328)

- A fixed-height hospital bed is medically necessary when **one** of the following applies:
 - The individual requires body positioning that is not feasible with a standard bed
 - The individual has a medical condition that requires the head of the bed to be elevated 30 degrees or more
 - The individual requires specialized equipment that can only be attached to a hospital bed

Variable Height Hospital Bed

HCPCS (E0255, E0256, E0292, E0293)

- A variable height hospital bed is medically necessary when there is documentation of **both** of the following:
 - The individual requires a different bed height for transfers to a chair, wheelchair, or standing position
 - **One** or more of the following applies:

- The individual requires body positioning that is not feasible with a standard bed.
- The individual has a medical condition that requires the head of the bed to be elevated 30 degrees or more.
- The individual requires specialized equipment that can only be attached to a hospital bed.

Semi-electric Hospital Bed

HCPCS Codes (E0260, E0261, E0294, E0295, E0329)

- A semi-electric hospital bed is medically necessary when there is documentation of **both** of the following:
 - The individual requires frequent changes in body position or has an urgent need for a change in body position.
 - **One** of the following applies:
 - The individual requires body positioning that is not feasible with a standard bed.
 - The individual has a medical condition that requires the head of the bed to be elevated 30 degrees or more.
 - The individual requires specialized equipment that can only be attached to a hospital bed.

Total Electric Hospital Bed

HCPCS Codes (E0265, E0266, E0296, E0297)

A total electric hospital bed is medically necessary when there is documentation of **all** of the following:

- The individual requires frequent changes in body position and/or has an urgent need for a change in body position.
- The electric adjustable bed height is needed for independent transfers.
- **One** or more of the following applies:
 - The individual requires body positioning that is not feasible with a standard bed.
 - The individual has a medical condition that requires the head of the bed to be elevated 30 degrees or more.
 - The individual requires specialized equipment that can only be attached to a hospital bed.

Heavy-duty Extra Wide Hospital Bed

HCPCS Codes (E0301, E0303)

A heavy-duty extra wide hospital bed is medically necessary when there is documentation of **both** of the following:

- The individual weighs more than 350 pounds but does not exceed 600 pounds.
- **One** or more of the following applies:
 - The individual requires body positioning that is not feasible with a standard bed.
 - The individual has a medical condition that requires the head of the bed to be elevated 30 degrees or more.
 - The individual requires specialized equipment that can only be attached to a hospital bed.

Extra Heavy-duty Hospital Bed

HCPCS Codes (E0302, E0304)

An extra heavy-duty hospital bed is medically necessary when there is documentation of **both** of the following:

- The individual weighs more than 600 pounds.
- **One** or more of the following applies:
 - The individual requires body positioning that is not feasible with a standard bed.
 - The individual has a medical condition that requires the head of the bed to be elevated 30 degrees or more.
 - The individual requires specialized equipment that can only be attached to a hospital bed.

Air-Fluidized Beds

HCPCS Codes (E0194)

Initial use of an air-fluidized bed is medically necessary when there is documentation of **all** the following:

- Individual has full thickness tissue loss (stage 3) or deep tissue destruction (stage 4) pressure ulcer.
- Severely limited motility has rendered the individual bedridden or chair-bound.
- Individual would require institutionalization without the air-fluidized bed.
- One-month of failed conservative treatment that included ALL of the following:

- Frequent repositioning of the individual every two hours.
- Use of a Group 2 support surface to reduce pressure on healing ulcers and to prevent new ulcer formation.
- Necessary treatment to resolve any wound infection.
- Debridement by any method to remove decayed tissue from the wound bed.
- Maintenance of a clean, moist bed of granulation tissue with appropriate moist dressings protected by an occlusive covering while the wound heals.
- Management of moisture.
- An adult caregiver is available to provide support with the individual's activities of daily living, daily care and hygiene, administration of prescribed medications and treatments, repositioning of the bed, nutritional needs, and addressing issues that may arise with the bed.
- Training of the adult caregiver on the prevention and management of pressure ulcers, particularly application of occlusive moisture therapy.
- Weekly evaluation by a licensed health care professional.
- Monthly re-evaluation and re-certification of the need for an air-fluidized bed by the treating provider.
- All other alternative equipment has been considered and ruled out.

Initial Rental

- Initial rental period of one month (30 days).

Continued Rental

Continued use is provided for one month (30 day) increments.

The treating healthcare provider must submit requests on a monthly basis for continued use.

Continued use of an air-fluidized bed must be requested by the treating healthcare provider on a monthly basis and is medically necessary with documentation of ONE of the following:

- The pressure ulcer is healing.
- The care plan is being adjusted to promote healing for a pressure ulcer not healing as expected.

Positioning Cushion

HCPCS E0190

A positioning cushion (HCPCS E0190) is considered medical necessary when the individual has a medical condition that requires postural support.

Codes

HCPCS Code	Description
E0184	Dry pressure mattress
E0190	Positioning cushion/pillow/wedge, any shape or size, includes all components and accessories
E0194	Air fluidized bed
E0250	Hospital bed, fixed height, with any type side rails, with mattress
E0255	Hospital bed, variable height, hi-lo, with any type side rails, with mattress
E0256	Hospital bed, variable height, hi-lo, with any type side rails, without mattress
E0260	Hospital bed, semi-electric (head and foot adjustment), with any type side rails, with mattress
E0261	Hospital bed, semi-electric (head and foot adjustment), with any type side rails, without mattress
E0265	Hospital bed, total electric (head, foot and height adjustments), with any type rails, with mattress
E0266	Hospital bed, total electric (head, foot and height adjustments), with any type side rails, without mattress
E0272	Mattress, foam rubber
E0290	Hospital bed, fixed height, without side rails, with mattress
E0291	Hospital bed, fixed height, without side rails, without mattress
E0292	Hospital bed, variable height, hi-lo, without side rails, with mattress
E0293	Hospital bed, variable height, hi-lo, without side rails, without mattress

HCP Code	Description
E0294	Hospital bed, semi-electric (head and foot adjustment), without side rails, with mattress
E0295	Hospital bed, semi-electric (head and foot adjustment), without side rails, without mattress
E0296	Hospital bed, total electric (head, foot and height adjustments), without side rails, with mattress
E0297	Hospital bed, total electric (head, foot and height adjustments), without side rails, without mattress
E0301	Hospital bed, heavy duty, extra wide, with weight capacity greater than 350 pounds, but less than or equal to 600 pounds, with any type side rails, without mattress
E0302	Hospital bed, extra heavy duty, extra wide, with weight capacity greater than 600 pounds, with any type side rails, without mattress
E0303	Hospital bed, heavy duty, extra wide, with weight capacity greater than 350 pounds, but less than or equal to 600 pounds, with any type side rails, with mattress
E0304	Hospital bed, extra heavy duty, extra wide, with weight capacity greater than 600 pounds, with any type side rails, with mattress
E0305	Bed side rails, half length
E0316	Safety enclosure frame/canopy for use with hospital bed, any type
E0328	Urinal; female, jug-type, any material
E0329	Hospital bed, pediatric, electric or semi-electric, 360 degree side enclosures, top of headboard, footboard and side rails up to 24 inches above the spring, includes mattress

Evidence Discussion

Air-fluidized therapy (AFT) was designed to prevent and manage pressure ulcer through a continuous circulation of filtered air, which provides even distribution of pressure across an individual's body. Air-fluidized therapy is administered with specialized beds that envelope the patient and air is forced through millions of sand-like silicone beads for equal pressure distribution.¹

¹ Fleck CA, Rappl LM, Simman R, et al, Use of Alternatives to Air-Fluidized Support Surfaces in the Care of Complex Wounds in Postflap and Postgraft Patients. The Journal of the American College of Certified Wound Specialists, v2, Issue 1, 2010. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcws.2010.02.002>.

The effectiveness of AFT has been demonstrated over the past two decades, and it has become widely accepted as a support for select individuals with high stage pressure ulcers or who are at risk for developing wounds during post-operative recuperation. Studies have demonstrated their effectiveness in improved pressure ulcer healing when compared to standard support systems.²³⁴⁵

There are aspects of these specialized beds that require additional patient care, which are reflected in the medical necessity criteria. Air-fluidized beds can cause patients to become overheated and dehydrated. Because of this dehydration, pressure wounds must use occlusive dressing to keep the wounds moist. Patients also require assistance to maneuver in the bed since they do not lie on top of the bed, instead they are enveloped by it. These beds also pose a risk for injury, because they can release silicon beads making the floor under the bed slippery. For these reasons, it is imperative that trained, adult caregivers be present around-the-clock to care for patients using this support. In addition, a healthcare provider should evaluate the patient's status at least weekly to ensure that their AFT is being maintained properly.⁶

References

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