

# Hospital Beds and Accessories

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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 and Accessories - 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 mobility 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.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2345</sup>

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.<sup>6</sup>

## References

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