

Custom Fit Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

DME.CU.102.A

v1.0.2026

Introduction

Custom fit durable medical equipment (DME) is addressed by this guideline.

Health Equity Consideration

Paragraph

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.

Criteria

Custom fitted DME is indicated when basic coverage criteria have been met, the condition requiring the device is anticipated to be permanent or of long-standing duration, and **any** of the following:

- The individual has a medical condition that necessitates the creation of a **custom fit device**.
- The individual is unable to be fitted with a standard pre-made device.
- The individual has failed a trial with a standard pre-made device.

Definitions

A **custom fitted item** is prefabricated and may or may not be supplied as a kit that requires some assembly. Custom fitting can include trimming, bending, or molding of the prefabricated item beyond minimal self-adjustment. This fitting at delivery requires the expertise of a certified orthotist or an individual who has specialized training to fit the item to the individual.

References

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