

Clinical Policy: Durable Medical Equipment and Orthotics and Prosthetics Guidelines

Reference Number: CP.MP.107

Last Review Date: 12/18

[Coding Implications](#)

[Revision Log](#)

See [Important Reminder](#) at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description

DME is defined as equipment that can stand repeated use, is primarily and customarily used to serve a medical purpose, and is generally not useful to a person in the absence of an illness or injury. Orthotic devices are rigid and semi-rigid devices used for the purpose of supporting a weak or deformed body part or restricting or eliminating motion in a disease or injured body part. Prosthetic devices are custom-made artificial limbs or other assistive devices for people who have lost limbs as a result of traumatic injuries, vascular disease, diabetes, cancer or congenital disorders.

Policy/Criteria

It is the policy of health plans affiliated with Centene Corporation[®] that durable medical equipment, orthotics, and prosthetics are **medically necessary** when the applicable criteria are met.

CONTENTS

AMBULATORY ASSIST PRODUCTS	2
BURN GARMENTS	2
CARDIAC EQUIPMENT	3
COMPRESSION THERAPY EQUIPMENT	3
DIABETES CARE EQUIPMENT	4
HEAT, COLD & LIGHT THERAPY EQUIPMENT	4
NEWBORN CARE EQUIPMENT.....	4
ORTHOPEDIC CARE EQUIPMENT	4
OTHER EQUIPMENT	6
PUMPS.....	6
RESPIRATORY EQUIPMENT.....	6
STIMULATOR EQUIPMENT	8
SURGICAL SUPPLIES.....	9
WOUND CARE.....	10

CLINICAL POLICY
DME and O&P Criteria

AMBULATORY ASSIST PRODUCTS	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Gait trainers	Medically necessary with therapist evaluation and ongoing treatment when <i>all</i> of the following criteria are met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member requires moderate to maximum support for walking; • Cleared medically for weight bearing and can physiologically tolerate upright positioning; • The member has been evaluated with the requested gait trainer, can tolerate the positioning in the device, and has successfully demonstrated proper use; • The member and caregivers have been trained on the gait trainer and are motivated to continue ongoing use. 	E8000 E8001 E8002

BURN GARMENTS	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Burn garments	Medically necessary with associated physical and/or occupational therapy when <i>all</i> of the following criteria are met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The burn is of documented significance to place the member at risk of a post-burn contracture; • The burn garment and physical and/or occupational therapies are being used with the intent of preventing the need for skin grafting or contractures as a result of hypertrophic scarring; • The burn garment is requested by the primary care physician and/or the treating specialist. 	A6501 A6507 A6511

CLINICAL POLICY
DME and O&P Criteria

CARDIAC EQUIPMENT	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Cardiac event recorder, implantable	<p>Medically necessary for members for evaluation of recurrent unexplained episodes of pre-syncope, syncope, "seizures", palpitations, or dizziness when both of the following criteria are met:</p> <p>A. A cardiac arrhythmia is suspected as the cause of the symptoms;</p> <p>B. Either of the following criteria are met:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Heart failure, prior myocardial infarction or significant ECG abnormalities (see below): noninvasive ambulatory monitoring, consisting of 30-day pre-symptom external loop recordings or MCT, fails to establish a definitive diagnosis; 2. Without heart failure, prior myocardial infarction or significant ECG abnormalities (see below) and symptoms occur so infrequently and unpredictably (< once per month) that noninvasive ambulatory monitoring (MCT or external loop recorders) are unlikely to capture a diagnostic ECG. <p>Significant ECG Abnormalities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syncope during exertion or supine • Palpitations at the time of syncope • Family history of SCD • Non-sustained VT • Bifascicular-block (LBBB or RBBB combined with left anterior or left posterior fascicular block) or other intraventricular conduction abnormalities with QRS duration ≥ 120 ms • Inadequate sinus bradycardia (<50 bpm) or sinoatrial block in absence of negative chronotropic medications or physical training • Pre-excited QRS complex • Prolonged or short QT interval • RBBB pattern with ST-elevation in leads V1-V3 (Brugada pattern) • Negative T waves in right precordial leads, epsilon waves, and ventricular late potentials suggestive of ARVC <p>Medically necessary for evaluation of members with suspected atrial fibrillation as a cause of cryptogenic stroke who have had a nondiagnostic Holter monitor or 48 hour telemetry</p>	E0616
External defibrillator with integrated ECG analysis	Considered not medically necessary as it is primarily considered a safety device	E0617

COMPRESSION THERAPY EQUIPMENT	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Pneumatic compression devices	For lymphedema of the abdomen, trunk, chest, genitals, or neck; and for arterial insufficiency, is considered experimental/investigational, thus not medically necessary.	E0675

CLINICAL POLICY
DME and O&P Criteria

DIABETES CARE EQUIPMENT	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Blood glucose monitor with integrated voice synthesizer	Medically necessary for members with diabetes who are legally blind (best corrected visual acuity less than 20/200).	E2100

HEAT, COLD & LIGHT THERAPY EQUIPMENT	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Ultraviolet panel lights	Medically necessary for members who have both: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refractory psoriasis; • MD must justify treatment at home versus alternate sites (e.g. Outpatient department at hospital). Panel lights should be considered, if several discrete body areas can be treated individually. Cabinet style should be reserved for members with extensive involvement > 54% of body surface area. 	E0691 E0692 E0693 E0694
Cold pad pump	Medically necessary as a replacement for a water pump cold pad that is no longer functioning from normal wear and tear.	E0236

NEWBORN CARE EQUIPMENT	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Breast pumps	Medically necessary for members for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breast feeding mother if it is a covered benefit in the State, and • Less than \$250.00 as a purchase • If >\$250 approve as rental up to purchase price then convert to purchase • Limit one per member. 	E0604

ORTHOPEDIC CARE EQUIPMENT	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Traction equipment & fracture frames	Home traction therapy is unproven and considered experimental/investigational, not medically necessary.	E0849, E0947, E0948
Rollabout chair	Medically necessary when used in lieu of a wheelchair for members who would qualify for a wheelchair (except for the ability to self-propel a manual wheelchair).	E1031
Flexion/extension devices	Considered medically necessary for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • < 6 months following surgery or intervention to improve motion/stiffness in a joint; • Has been compliant with both therapy and home exercise programs. 	E1802, E1810, E1811, E1812, E1815, E1818
Halo procedure equipment	Halo placement is generally performed on an emergent or inpatient basis and will be reviewed at the appropriate level of care using nationally recognized decision support tools.	L0810, L0820, L0830, L0859

CLINICAL POLICY
DME and O&P Criteria

ORTHOPEDIC CARE EQUIPMENT	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Cervical collar, custom molded	Requests for custom molded cervical collar will be reviewed by a licensed physical or occupational therapist. Documentation accompanying the request must state reason why pre-fabricated collar not adequate.	L0170, L0190, L0200
Spinal orthotics	Requests for spinal orthotics will be reviewed using relevant nationally recognized decision support tool criteria for similar codes	L0700, L0710, L0999, L1000, L1001, L1005
Hip orthotics	Medically necessary when ordered by an orthopedist for treatment of, or postoperatively for, total hip arthroplasty, slipped capital femoral epiphysis, Legg-Calvé-Perthes disease, and hip dysplasia for Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease. Lateral replacements are considered medically necessary in pediatrics due to growth for diagnoses such as hip dysplasia with Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease.	L1640, L1680, L1685, L1686, L1690
Legg Perthes orthotics	Medically necessary when ordered by an orthopedist for use in the treatment for Legg-Calvé-Perthes disease in children.	L1700, L1710, L1720, L1730, L1755
Hip-knee-ankle-foot orthotics (KAFO/HKAFO)	Requests for orthotics will be reviewed on a case by case basis.	L2050, L2060, L2090
Orthotic components	Requests for orthotic components listed will be reviewed using relevant nationally recognized decision support tool criteria for similar codes.	L2570, L2580, L2627, L2628
Orthopedic footwear, custom	Requests for custom orthotic components will be reviewed using relevant nationally recognized decision support tool criteria for similar codes.	L3230
Shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, finger orthotics	<p>Medically necessary when ordered immediately post-operative for orthopedic surgeries such as rotator cuff repair, tendon repair, or ORIF.</p> <p>Replacement due to normal wear and tear is considered medically necessary when the item is a lateral purchase and the orthotic is still needed; Coverage is based on contract guidelines for replacement DME.</p>	L3720, L3730, L3740, L3760, L3900, L3901, L3904, L3960, L3962, L3999, L4000, L4010, L4020, L4030, L4130, L4205

CLINICAL POLICY
DME and O&P Criteria



ORTHOPEDIC CARE EQUIPMENT	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Prosthetics and additions	Requests for these prosthetics and additions will be reviewed by a licensed physical or occupational therapist.	L5990, L6000, L6010, L6020, L6026, L6050, L6055, L6100, L6110, L6120, L6130, L6200, L6205, L6250, L6300, L6310, L6320, L6350, L6360, L6370, L6380, L6382, L6384, L6386, L6388, L6400, L6450, L6500, L6550, L6570, L6580, L6582, L6584, L6586, L6588, L6590, L6623, L6624, L6625, L6628, L6638, L6646, L6647, L6648, L6689, L6690, L6692, L6693, L6704, L6707, L6708, L6709, L6711, L6712, L6713, L6714, L6715, L6721, L6722, L6885, L6895, L6900, L6905, L6910, L6915, L6920, L6930, L6940, L6950, L6960, L6965, L6970, L6975, L7040, L7170, L7185, L7186, L7405, L7499

OTHER EQUIPMENT	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Positioning seat	Medically necessary with therapist evaluation and ongoing treatment and <i>all</i> of the following criteria are met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial device must be unable to meet the positioning needs of the member due to height, weight, or disability; • Other positioning devices in the home must be reviewed to ensure a duplication of devices is not already in place; 	T5001
Specialized supply or equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requests for not otherwise specified supplies will have a physician review to determine medical necessity. 	T2028 T2029

PUMPS	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Parenteral pumps for medication administration	Medically necessary for uninterrupted parenteral administration of medication via pump.	K0455
Gastric suction pump, home model	Medically necessary for members with a medical need for gastric suction in the home.	E2000
Male vacuum erection device	A vacuum erection device (VED) and tension ring are not medically necessary for the treatment of erectile dysfunction.	L7900 L7902

RESPIRATORY EQUIPMENT	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Nebulizer, ultrasonic	Medically necessary for members when used for delivery of pentamidine or aerosolized antibiotics.	E0575

CLINICAL POLICY
DME and O&P Criteria

RESPIRATORY EQUIPMENT	CRITERIA	HCPCS
IPPB & supplies	Medically necessary for members with respiratory disease when an incentive spirometer is ineffective.	E0500 E0550
Oximeter	<p>Medically necessary when used as a monitoring and alarm device for any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To monitor individuals on a home ventilator or with a tracheostomy • To determine appropriate home oxygen requirements • To wean an individual from home oxygen • To monitor an unstable respiratory condition <p>Not medically necessary when used for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oximetry when used as a diagnostic procedure • Monitoring of a stable respiratory condition • Asthma management • Other conditions not listed above 	E0445
Oxygen tent	Medically necessary for members whose ability to breathe is impaired and for whom supplemental oxygen is required. Example diagnosis includes croup.	E0455
Ventilator Second home ventilator	<p>Medically necessary for members with a long-term/chronic condition or disease affecting the ability to effectively maintain adequate respiratory status. Examples of conditions may include neuromuscular disease, thoracic restrictive disease, or chronic respiratory failure following COPD.</p> <p>A second invasive or non-invasive ventilator is considered medically necessary if required for a different purpose from the first ventilator, based on the member's medical needs. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two different types of ventilators are needed for each day, e.g., negative pressure ventilator with chest shell for one indication and a positive pressure ventilator with nasal mask the rest of the day; • Member is confined to a wheelchair and requires a wheel-chair mounted ventilator during the day and another ventilator of the same type for use while in bed. Without both pieces of equipment, member may be prone to medical complications, unable to achieve appropriate medical outcomes, or may not be able to use the equipment effectively. <p>Members residing in remote areas with poor emergency access may also be considered for a second ventilator.</p>	E0465 E0466

CLINICAL POLICY
DME and O&P Criteria

STIMULATOR EQUIPMENT	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Neuromuscular stimulator	<p>Medically necessary (E0745) when used as one component of a comprehensive rehab program for the treatment of disuse atrophy when the nerve supply to the atrophied muscle is intact and has any of the following indications for disuse atrophy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contractures due to burn scarring; • Previous casting or splinting of a limb; • Major knee surgery with failure to respond to physical therapy; • Recent hip replacement until physical therapy begins. <p>Neuromuscular electrical stimulation for any other indication (e.g., idiopathic scoliosis [E0744], heart failure) is not medically necessary because it is considered experimental/investigational or unproven.</p>	E0745
Functional neuromuscular stimulator	<p>Medically necessary for members with a spinal cord injury (SCI) who meet ALL the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member has intact lower motor units (L1 and below (both muscle and peripheral nerve)); • Member has muscle and joint stability adequate for weight bearing upper and lower extremities to allow balance and control to maintain an upright support posture independently; • Member has brisk muscle contraction to stimulation and sensory perception of electrical stimulation sufficient for muscle contraction; • Member can transfer independently and demonstrates independent standing tolerance for at least 3 minutes; • Member can demonstrate hand and finger function to manipulate controls; • Member has no hip and knee degenerative disease and no history of long bone fracture secondary to osteoporosis; • Member is at least 6 months post recovery from SCI and restorative surgery; • Member is highly motivated, committed, and has the cognitive ability to use such devices for walking; • Member has demonstrated a willingness to use the device long-term; • Member has successfully completed a training program consisting of at least 32 physical therapy sessions with the device over a 3-month period. <p>Contraindications, any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardiac pacemaker; • Severe scoliosis or severe osteoporosis; • Skin disease or cancer at area of stimulation; • Irreversible contracture; • Autonomic dysflexia. 	E0764
Peroneal nerve stimulators	<p>Peroneal nerve stimulators, (e.g., NESS L300, NESS L300 Plus, L300 Go System, WalkAide, ODFS Dropped Foot Stimulator) are considered investigational, not medically necessary, for all indications including, but not limited to, members with foot drop in cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, traumatic brain injury, stroke or an incomplete spinal cord injury.</p>	E0770

CLINICAL POLICY
DME and O&P Criteria

STIMULATOR EQUIPMENT	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Implantable neurostimulator	<p>Diaphragmatic pacing is medically necessary for the treatment of chronic ventilatory insufficiency due to bilateral paralysis or severe paresis of the diaphragm in members with partial or complete ventilatory insufficiency that retain sufficient function in the phrenic nerves, lungs and diaphragm to accommodate electrical stimulation.</p> <p>See CP.MP.12 Vagus Nerve Stimulation for criteria for implantation of stimulator for epilepsy and depression and CP.MP.117 Spinal Cord Stimulation for criteria for spinal cord stimulation for pain management.</p>	L8681 L8684 L8689

SURGICAL SUPPLIES	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Ambulatory infusion pump	<p>Medically necessary for members when used for one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Iron Poisoning: when used in the administration of deferoxamine for the treatment of acute iron poisoning and iron overload; B. Chemotherapy for liver cancer: when used in the treatment of primary hepatocellular carcinoma or colorectal cancer where this disease is unresectable; OR, where the patient refuses surgical excision of the tumor; C. With opioid drugs when used in the treatment of intractable pain caused by cancer. D. To safely administer a drug considered reasonable and necessary by either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prolonged infusion of at least 8 hours because of proven improved clinical efficacy (i.e., proven or generally accepted to have significant advantages over intermittent bolus administration regimens or infusions lasting less than 8 hours) or 2. Intermittent infusion, each episode of infusion lasting less than 8 hours, and both of the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Does not require the member to return to the physician's office prior to the beginning of each infusion. b. Strictly controlled rate of infusion is necessary because systemic toxicity or adverse effects of the drug are unavoidable without infusing it at a controlled rate as indicated in the Physicians Desk Reference, or the U.S. Pharmacopeia Drug Information 	E0781

CLINICAL POLICY
DME and O&P Criteria

SURGICAL SUPPLIES	CRITERIA	HCPCS
Implantable infusion pumps	<p>Medically necessary for members when used for one of the following:</p> <p>A. Chemotherapy for liver cancer</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Primary hepatocellular carcinoma or Duke’s Class D colorectal cancer, in which the metastases are limited to the liver and where either the disease is unresectable, or the patient refuses excision of the tumor; <p>B. Anti-spasmodic drugs for severe spasticity</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When administered intrathecal to treat chronic intractable spasticity in patients unresponsive to less invasive medical therapy including both of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. A 6-week trial of noninvasive methods, such as oral anti-spasmodic drugs, that failed to adequately control the spasticity or produced intolerable side effects; b. Prior to pump implantation, member responded favorably to a trial of intrathecal dose of the anti-spasmodic drug; <p>C. Opioid drugs for treatment of chronic intractable pain, see CP.MP.173 Implantable Intrathecal Pain Pumps</p> <p>D. Other uses of implantable infusion pumps when all of the following are met: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The drug is reasonable and necessary for the treatment of an individual member; 2. It is medically necessary that the drug be administered by an implanted infusion pump. The infusion pump has been FDA-approved for the drug being administered and the purpose for which it is being administered. </p>	E0782 E0783 E0785 E0786
Other surgical supplies	These items are used as part of a surgical procedure and will be reviewed according to the relevant surgical procedure or level of care.	L8035, L8040, L8041, L8042, L8043, L8044, L8045, L8046, L8047, L8499, L8600, L8609, L8610, L8612, L8615, L8631, L8659

WOUND CARE	CRITERIA	HCPCS
GammaGraft	Experimental/investigational, considered not medically necessary	Q4111
Whirlpool tub	Considered not medically necessary.	E1310

Coding Implications

Codes referenced in this clinical policy are for informational purposes only. Inclusion or exclusion of any codes does not guarantee coverage. Providers should reference the most up-to-date sources of professional coding guidance prior to the submission of claims for reimbursement of covered services.

Background

CLINICAL POLICY

DME and O&P Criteria

DME items have the following characteristics:

- The equipment is prescribed by a physician;
- The equipment meets the definition of DME;
- The equipment is necessary and reasonable for the treatment of a member's illness or injury;
- The equipment is manufactured primarily for use in the home environment but is not limited to use in the home.

Member's Home

For purposes of rental and purchase of DME, a member's home may be his/her own dwelling, an apartment, a relative's home, a home for the aged, or some other type of institution.

However, an institution may not be considered a member's home if the following are met:

- Meets at least the basic requirement in the definition of a hospital, i.e., it is primarily engaged in providing by or under the supervision of physicians, to inpatient, diagnostic and therapeutic services for medical diagnosis, treatment, and care of injured, disabled, and sick persons, or rehabilitation services for the rehabilitation of injured, disabled, or sick persons; or
- Meets at least the basic requirement in the definition of a skilled nursing facility, i.e., it is primarily engaged in providing to inpatients skilled nursing care and related services for members who require medical or nursing care, or rehabilitation services for the rehabilitation of injured, disabled, or sick persons.

Members who have been permanently admitted to an inpatient skilled nursing facility or inpatient hospice and who have changed their home address to that of the SNF or hospice will have the SNF or hospice defined as their home.

Products

Products is defined as a listing of the most common items, or group of items, that are or may be perceived as home medical equipment. This listing, while reasonably complete, is not intended to quantify the entire spectrum of products that may be considered DME either now or in the future.

Durability

An item is considered durable if it can withstand repeated use, i.e., the type of item that could normally be rented. Medical supplies of an expendable nature, such as incontinence pads, lamb's wool pads, catheters, ace bandages, elastic stockings, surgical facemasks, sheets, and bags are not considered "durable" within the meaning of the definition. There are other items that although durable in nature, may fall into other coverage categories such as supplies and orthotics and prosthetics. Orthotics and Prosthetics items include, but are not limited to, braces, artificial limbs and eyes.

Medical Equipment

Medical equipment is defined as equipment primarily and customarily used for medical purposes and is not generally useful in the absence of illness or injury. In most instances, no documentation will be needed to support whether a specific item of equipment is medical in nature. However, some cases will require documentation to determine whether the item constitutes medical equipment. This documentation would include the advice of local medical

CLINICAL POLICY
DME and O&P Criteria

organizations and facilities and specialists in the field of physical medicine and rehabilitation. If the equipment is new on the market, it may be necessary, prior to seeking professional advice, to obtain information from the supplier or manufacturer explaining the design, purpose, effectiveness and method of using the equipment in the home as well as the results of any tests or clinical studies that have been conducted.

Personal computers or mobile technology such as iPads, smart phones, iPods, personal digital assistants, etc., may be considered as medical equipment when used for the purpose of speech generating equipment when other non-medical functions are limited or disabled and that device is used as the primary source of communication for those qualifying for a speech generating device.

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	Approval Date
Policy created	06/09	06/09
Updated HCPCS codes for existing criteria to current DME PA list VAD replacement parts, protective helmet, and Q4100 & Q4118 removed d/t removal from DME PA list. Added traction equipment/fracture frame Removed emergency response system criteria as no longer on the DME PA list Added male vacuum erection device Added ambulatory infusion pump criteria Added specific criteria for gait trainers and positioning chairs Specialist Review (PT & OT)	01/15	02/15
2015 codes added: L6026 and L7259 to prosthetic section and L3981 added to shoulder orthotic section	03/15	
Updated HCPCS codes per 2016 CMS mandate, removed deleted codes. Changed “lymphedema pumps” to “pneumatic compression devices” for lymphedema or arterial insufficiency. Removed oral device criteria and codes which are now covered in InterQual Updated template, retitled to CP.MP.107	02/16	02/16
Moved language from Policy/Criteria sections A, B, and C to background and removed definitions of necessary and reasonable. Deleted diagnostic equipment table and moved oximetry to respiratory table, and biofeedback to other equipment table. Clarified that oximetry for diagnostic screening is not a DME use.	07/16	07/16

CLINICAL POLICY
DME and O&P Criteria

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	Approval Date
<p>Removed A6503, E0656, E0657, E0221, E0270, E0840, E0850, E0855, E0856, E0860, E0870, E0880, E0890, E0800, E0930, E0941, E0942, E0945, E0946, L2861, L5969, E0746, E2120, E0457, E0459, E0462, E0744, E0762, L8685, Q4114, Q4130 as they are not on DME or O&P PA list</p> <p>Removed L5782, L6621, L6686, L6687, L6688, L6694, L6695, L6696, L6697, L6698, L6880, L6881, L6682, L7007, L7008, L7009, L7045, L7180, L7181, L7190, L7191, L7366, L7404, L8680, L8682, L8683, L8686, L8687, L8688 because other criteria now exists</p> <p>Added implantable cardiac event recorder as medically necessary in some cases of cryptogenic stroke</p> <p>Added E1801, E1818, L0648, L0650, L0651, L6020, L6026, L6500, Q4111 as they are on PA and no other criteria exists</p>	01/17	02/17
<p>Added background section on use of mobile devices as speech generating devices.</p>	09/17	09/17
<p>Removed the following codes because other criteria now exists: E0670, L2999, L3981, B9002, B9004, B9006. Classified L7900 (vacuum erection device), and L7902 as not medically necessary per Medicare LCD.</p> <p>Revised language for Ambulatory Infusion Pumps –section C. to state opioid drugs rather than morphine.</p> <p>Added criteria for prolonged and intermittent infusions under Ambulatory Infusion Pumps, section D.</p>	01/18	01/18
<p>Revised section on Orthotic Care Equipment, Hip/Knee/Ankle/Foot Orthotics (L2050, L2060, L2090) noting that when requested, they would be reviewed on a case by case basis.</p> <p>Added E0770, Peroneal Nerve Stimulation as investigational and not medically necessary to section on Stimulator Equipment.</p>	07/18	07/18
<p>Added A6511 to section on Burn garments. Deleted section for enteral pumps and supplies because other criteria exists. Added reference to CP.MP.117, Spinal Cord Stimulation in section on Implantable neurostimulator.</p>	12/18	12/18
<p>Changed section “Parenteral pumps and supplies” to “Parenteral pumps for medication administration”, changed criteria from TPN use only to uninterrupted medication administration, per code description. In implantable infusion pump, replaced chronic non-malignant pain criteria with a reference to CP.MP.173 intrathecal pain pumps. Other minor rewording for clarity with no clinical significance.</p> <p>Updated flexion/extension devices according to current InterQual availability: removed E1801 and added E1802 & E1812</p>	04/19	04/19

References

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Important Reminder

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical policy; and other available clinical information. The Health Plan makes no representations and accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. “Health Plan” means a health plan that has adopted this clinical policy and that is operated or administered, in whole or in part, by Centene Management Company, LLC, or any of such health plan’s affiliates, as applicable.

The purpose of this clinical policy is to provide a guide to medical necessity, which is a component of the guidelines used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Coverage decisions and the administration of benefits are subject to all terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of the coverage documents (e.g., evidence of coverage, certificate of coverage, policy, contract of insurance, etc.), as well as to state and federal requirements and applicable Health Plan-level administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by the Health Plan. The date of posting may not be the effective date of this clinical policy. This clinical policy may be subject to applicable legal and regulatory requirements relating to provider notification. If there is a discrepancy between the effective date of this clinical policy and any applicable legal or regulatory requirement, the requirements of law and regulation shall govern. The Health Plan retains the right to change, amend or withdraw this clinical policy, and additional clinical policies may be developed and adopted as needed, at any time.

This clinical policy does not constitute medical advice, medical treatment or medical care. It is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine. Providers are expected to exercise professional medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care, and are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of members. This clinical policy is not intended to recommend treatment for members. Members should consult with their treating physician in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

Providers referred to in this clinical policy are independent contractors who exercise independent judgment and over whom the Health Plan has no control or right of control. Providers are not agents or employees of the Health Plan.

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Note: For Medicaid members, when state Medicaid coverage provisions conflict with the coverage provisions in this clinical policy, state Medicaid coverage provisions take precedence. Please refer to the state Medicaid manual for any coverage provisions pertaining to this clinical policy.

Note: For Medicare members, to ensure consistency with the Medicare National Coverage Determinations (NCD) and Local Coverage Determinations (LCD), all applicable NCDs, LCDs, and Medicare Coverage Articles should be reviewed prior to applying the criteria set forth in this clinical policy. Refer to the CMS website at <http://www.cms.gov> for additional information.

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