Manual Wheelchair Support Documentation

Fax: 907-561-9221
Phone: 907-561-9220
Orders@MyTritonSupply.com

Documentation Requirements

All payors

- Manual Wheelchair Prescription
- May also require a Medicaid Certificate of Medical Necessity for Medicaid patients.
- Medical records (see below for criteria)

Medical Record Requirements for All Wheelchairs

- Face-to-face visit with treating practitioner documenting patient's primary condition requiring the wheelchair.
    - Additional notes from other clinicians can be used to support medical necessity (PT, OT, etc.), but cannot take the place of the treating practitioner's face-to-face visit.
    - For Medicaid, the face-to-face visit must be within 6 months of the order.
- Records must support:
    - The patient has a mobility limitation that impairs their activities of daily living (MRADLs), such as toileting, bathing, cooking, etc.
        - For Medicare, these MRADLs must be within the home.
        - Impairment because the patient cannot accomplish the task at all, cannot accomplish the task in a reasonable timeframe, or is at risk of death or injury from accomplishing the task.
    - The limitation cannot be resolved with a cane or walker and will be resolved with the use of a wheelchair.
    - The patient is willing to use the wheelchair and will use it on a regular basis in the home.
    - Whether the patient has the capabilities to self-propel or if they have a caregiver who is available and willing to provide assistance.

Hemi Wheelchair – All Wheelchair criteria above plus:

- The patient needs a lower seat height (17-18") due to short stature or
- The patient self-propels by placing their feet on the ground.

Lightweight Wheelchairs – All Wheelchair criteria above plus:

- The patient cannot self-propel in a standard wheelchair.
- The patient can self-propel in a lightweight wheelchair.

High Strength Lightweight Wheelchairs – All Wheelchair criteria above plus:

- The patient self-propels the wheelchair while engaging in frequent activities in the home that cannot be performed with a standard or lightweight wheelchair.
- The patient requires a seat width, depth, or height that cannot be accommodated in a standard, lightweight, or hemi height wheelchair, and spends at least two hours a day in the wheelchair.
- Rarely reasonable and necessary if the length of need is less than 3 months.

Heavy Duty Wheelchair – All Wheelchair criteria above plus:

- The patient weighs more than 250 lbs. or
- The patient has severe spasticity.

Extra Heavy-Duty Wheelchair – All Wheelchair criteria above plus:

- The patient weighs more than 300 lbs.

Transport Wheelchair – All Wheelchair criteria above plus:

- Information on why the patient is unable to use a standard manual wheelchair on their own.
- The patient has a caregiver who is available, willing, and able to provide assistance with the wheelchair.
- If the patient weighs more than 300 pounds, document the weight for a heavy-duty transport chair.

Accessories (must qualify for wheelchair)

- Elevating leg rests – one of the following:
    - Musculoskeletal condition or the presence of a cast or brace that prevents 90-degree flexion at the knee.
    - Significant edema of the lower extremities.
    - Qualifies for a reclining back.
- Seatbelt – Requires a seatbelt for proper positioning due to one of the following:
    - Weak upper body muscles
    - Upper body instability
    - Muscle spasticity
- Reclining back – one of the following:
    - The patient is at high risk for developing pressure ulcers and is unable to perform a functional weight shift.
    - The patient uses intermittent catheterization for bladder management and is unable to independently transfer from the wheelchair to the bed.