Commode

**Documentation Required**

- **All Insurance payers**
  - Prescription
  - Medical record notes specifying medical necessity

- **Prescription requirements**
  - Start Date
  - Patient name
  - Provider name
  - Detailed description of item(s) prescribed
  - ICD-10 code(s)
  - Length of need
  - Provider signature with credentials (for Medicare recipients)
  - Provider signature date (in addition to start date of prescription for Medicare recipients)

**Medical record notes for Medicare recipients must specify**

- **Standard commode**
  - Beneficiary is physically incapable of utilizing regular toilet facilities. This would occur in the following situations
    - The beneficiary is confined to a single room
      - Confinement to a single room means that the beneficiary is bedridden, cannot walk with a cane or walker, or cannot use or be wheeled in a wheelchair to access the bathroom
    - The beneficiary is confined to one level of the home environment and there is no toilet on that level
    - The beneficiary is confined to the home and there are no toilet facilities in the home
    - Height and weight within 30 days of prescription

- **Extra wide/Heavy Duty Commode**
  - Meet standard commode requirements
  - Weight > 300 lbs. documented in medical record within 30 days of prescription

- **Drop Arm Commode**
  - Meet standard commode requirements
  - Detachable arms feature is necessary to facilitate transferring the beneficiary or if the beneficiary has a body configuration that requires extra width

- **A commode is NOT covered by Medicare for the following conditions/situations:**
  - Urinary urgency or incontinence
  - Slow gait and cannot get to the bathroom in a timely manner
  - Patient can walk w/ or w/o assistive devices, can use a wheelchair in the home and can get to the bathroom