



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 patient cannot accomplish task at all, cannot accomplish task in a reasonable timeframe, or is at risk of death or injury from accomplishing task.
 - The limitation cannot be resolved with a cane or walker and will be resolved with the use of the 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 that is available and willing to provide assistance.

Hemi Wheelchairs – 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. OR
- ★ 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 that is available, willing, and able to provide assistance with the wheelchair.
- ★ If the patient weighs more than 300 pounds, documented weight for a heavy-duty transport chair.

Accessories (must qualifying 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 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.