MEDICARE CRITERIA FOR RESTRICTIVE THORACIC DISORDERS

Criterion A

There is documentation in the patient's medical record of a neuromuscular disease (e.g., amyotrophic lateral sclerosis) or severe thoracic cage abnormality (e.g., post-thoracoplasty for TB)

AND

Criterion B1

An arterial blood gas
PaCO₂ done while
awake and breathing
the patient's prescribed
FlO2 is ≥ 45 mm Hg.

OR

AND

Criterion B2

Sleep oximetry
demonstrates oxygen
saturation ≤ 88% for 5
minutes of nocturnal
recording time (minimum
recording time for 2
hours), done while
patient's prescribed
recommended FIO₂.

OR

AND

Criterion B3

For neuromuscular disease (only), maximal inspiratory pressure is <60 cm H₂0 or forced vital capacity is <50% predicted

AND

COPD does not contribute significantly to the patient's pulmonary limitation.



If all above criteria are met, either an E0470 or E0471 will be covered for the first three months of therapy.