

Clinical Documentation for Medicare Approval: Wheelchair Seat Cushions and Backs

Length: 2 hours

Description

Clinical documentation for seating and wheeled mobility has come under rigorous scrutiny by Medicare and other funders, with stricter standards, a demand for clear and concise information, and inclusion of objective exam results to support what is being prescribed. Coverage criteria for these products are specific and often diagnosis driven. It is critical for the clinicians and providers to be familiar with eligibility and documentation requirements to ensure that each individual receives the most appropriate equipment. This course will review the Medicare coverage criteria for each type of wheelchair cushion and back support. It will also provide an overview of the documentation elements required for seating products and facilitate critical thinking regarding how to arrive at, present and report the information.

Objectives

By the end of the presentation, participants will be able to:

- Identify how diagnosis-driven coverage criteria can impact access to clinically necessary equipment
- List the Medicare coverage criteria for each of the HCPCS codes for wheelchair seat cushions, back supports and pertinent positioning accessories
- Discuss the pros and cons of different documentation formats
- List the objective information that should be included in documentation for skin protection and/or positioning product solutions, describe its importance and discuss how it should be reported.
- Discuss the type of information that should be included in the clinical justifications for wheelchair seating and identify the “should’s” and “should not’s”
- Identify where to find information regarding Medicare’s equipment requirements and coverage criteria for seating products

Instruction Level: Basic

Credits: 2.0 CCUs / 0.2 CEUs

TOTA approved

TPTA approval pending

Presenter

Tricia Garven, MPT, ATP

Tricia is currently a Regional Clinical Education Manager at Permobil. Prior to joining the clinical team at Permobil, she was in a similar role as the Clinical Applications Manager for ROHO. Previously, in clinical practice, Tricia specialized in neuro rehabilitation at Baylor Institute for Rehabilitation (BIR) in Dallas, Texas. While working at BIR, she gained extensive knowledge in the prescription and training of custom wheelchairs and seating. She also worked as the outpatient wheelchair seating clinic specialist. Now with Permobil, Tricia is presenting educational programs to therapists and DME providers regarding seating, mobility and pressure ulcer prevention. Tricia is an active member of RESNA, Clinician's Task Force, and the APTA. Within the APTA, Tricia is a member of the Neurology Section as well on the nominating committee for the newly formed AT-SWM SIG.