

Seat Lift Chair and Mechanism

Coverage and Payment Policy

A Seat Lift Mechanism is an assistive device used in the home to lift a person's body from a sitting to a standing position or to lower the individual from a standing to a sitting position.

A Seat Lift chair and mechanism are covered if the beneficiary meets all of the criteria listed below:

1. The member must have severe arthritis of the hip or knee or have a severe neuromuscular disease.
2. The seat lift mechanism must be a part of the managing clinician's course of treatment and be prescribed to either effect improvement or arrest deterioration in the beneficiary's condition.
3. The member must be completely incapable of standing up from any chair within the home and
4. Once standing, the beneficiary must have the ability to ambulate.

Note: the fact that a member has difficulty or is incapable of getting up from a chair is not sufficient justification for a Seat Lift Mechanism.

1. Coverage is limited to those types of mechanisms that operate smoothly, can be controlled by the member and effectively allow for standing and sitting without other assistance. Excluded from coverage is the type of lift that operates by a spring loaded mechanism with a sudden, catapult-like motion and which jolts the member from a seated to a standing position.
2. The seat lift mechanism and the chair are to be billed separately.
3. Prior authorization is required.
4. Written approval from Medicare for the mechanism must be submitted with the prior authorization request.

Approved: _____ Associate Medical Director


Jerry Fingerhut, MD

Date: 19 October, 2015

Reviewed: _____

Revised: _____