

Continuous Passive Motion Devices

Policy Number: MP-024

Last Review Date: 08/15/2019

Effective Date: 10/01/2019

Policy

Evolent Health considers **Continuous Passive Motion (CPM) Devices** medically necessary in the early post-operative period following total knee replacements (TKRs) or revisions of TKR when ALL of the following criteria are met:

1. Must be initiated within two days post operatively for a period of no longer than 21 days (three weeks).
2. Can be used alone or in coordination with other forms of physical therapy (PT).
3. Must be recommended by an orthopedic specialist following surgery. The orthopedic specialist determines the speed, duration of usage, amount of motion, and the rate of increase of motion.

Limitations

1. Use of device must commence within two days following surgery and is limited to the three-week period following surgery because there is insufficient evidence to justify coverage of these devices for longer periods of time or for other applications.
2. Not prescribed for members with low back pain.
3. Coverage is only for rental equipment.
4. Use of CPM anywhere else other than the knee is considered experimental and investigational, and will therefore not be covered.

Background

In instances where knee arthritis is severe, total knee replacement surgery may be considered. The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) estimates that more than 600,000 knee replacements are performed annually in the United States.

CPM devices are durable medical equipment (DME) devices used as a treatment modality in which joint motion is provided without causing active contraction of muscle groups and with the goal of maintaining or restoring range of motion (ROM) to the joint. CPMs are used early in the healing process as passive motion can provide movement of the synovial fluid and thus promote lubrication of the joint, stimulate the healing of articular tissues, prevent adhesions and joint stiffness, and reduce edema, without interfering with the healing of incisions or wounds over the moving joint. CPM devices allow increased duration of therapy and can be performed in a controlled, defined way.

Codes:

CPT Codes / HCPCS Codes / ICD-10 Codes	
Code	Description

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E0935	Continuous passive motion device for use on the knee only
ICD-10 codes covered if selection criteria are met:	
Z96.651-Z96.659	Presence of artificial knee joint

References

- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). National Coverage Determination (NCD) No. 280.1 - Durable Medical Equipment Reference List. Effective Date: 05/05/2005. <http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/ncd-details.aspx?NCDId=190&ncdver=2&NCAId=3&ver=5&NcaName=Air-Fluidized+Beds+for+Pressure+Ulcers&bc=ACAAAAAAIAAA&>
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