

Coverage Criteria for Lymphedema for Medicare and Commercial Insurances

How to initiate an order:

Send a copy of the patient's demographics (including name, DOB, and insurance information) and medical records to 1.866.292.2579 or normatec@normatecmedical.com.

The patient's medical records must include the following:

1. Documented diagnosis and prognosis of Lymphedema including:

- The cause of Lymphedema
 - Primary (hereditary)
 - Acquired (related to cancer, surgery, trauma, or other underlying condition)
- Lymphedema has been present for *at least* past 4 weeks

See ICD-10 Coding Reference Sheet for covered diagnosis code(s)

2. Objective findings that establish the severity of the condition:

- Measurements that demonstrate edema of affected limb(s)
- Clinician documentation of at least one of the following symptoms:
 - Detailed measurements over time confirming the persistence of the lymphedema
 - Hyperkeratosis with hyperplasia and hyperpigmentation (thickening of skin with skin overgrowth and darkening of skin)
 - Skin breakdown with persisting lymphorrhea (weeping)
 - Elephantiasis deformity
 - Papillomatosis cutis lymphostatica (numerous warts due to severe lymphedema)

3. Documentation of patient's compliance with the following conservative treatments for at least 4 weeks

AND significant symptoms remain:

- Compression bandage or compression garment
- Regular exercise
- Elevation of limb(s)

(If patient is unable to be compliant with conservative treatments listed, record must state medical explanation/diagnosis prohibiting compliance.)

4. Physician notes and/or signed plans of care demonstrating physician oversight of all phases of treatment

Additionally Required for Medicare:

Medicare will not approve coverage if all the questions on the Certificate of Medical Necessity are answered "no"

• Patient must have a documented diagnosis of one of the following:

- Primary Lymphedema (hereditary)
- Acquired Lymphedema, secondary to cancer

• A NormaTec Representative will facilitate a treatment trial which will document the following:

- Clinical response to an initial treatment with the device
- Change in pre-treatment measurements
- Ability to tolerate the treatment
- Ability of patient or caregiver to apply device for continued use

For assistance, please contact a NormaTec Documentation Specialist at 1.800.335.0960 ext. 146.

You can view the original Policy Article (A52488) and Local Coverage Decision (L33829) at www.cms.gov.