

The Department of Vermont Health Access Medical Policy

Subject: Transfer boards and other non-lift transfer devices.

Last Review: June 28, 2011

Revision 3:

Revision 2:

Revision 1: June 28, 2011

Original Effective: 2004

Description of Service or Procedure

A transfer device enables a beneficiary to move between surfaces, for example from bed to chair, or bed to commode, or chair to commode. A transfer device is not meant to transport a beneficiary (for example from one room to another).

Note: Lifts are a specific category of transfer device that elevates an individual off one surface to another.

Disclaimer

Coverage is limited to that outlined in Medicaid Rule that pertains to the beneficiary's aid category. Prior Authorization (PA) is only valid if the beneficiary is eligible for the applicable item or service on the date of service.

Medicaid Rule

[7102.2](#) Prior Authorization Determination

[7103](#) Medical Necessity

Medicaid Rules can be found at <http://humanservices.vermont.gov/on-line-rules>

Coverage Position

A transfer device may be covered for beneficiaries:

- When this transfer device is prescribed by a licensed medical provider operating within their scope of practice under the VT Statutes who is knowledgeable in the use of transfer devices and who provides medical care to the beneficiary AND
- Who meet the clinical guidelines below.



Coverage Guidelines

Transfer devices may be covered when:

- The beneficiary has a medical condition that impairs the ability to transfer from one surface to another **AND**
- The beneficiary has been evaluated for the most appropriate transfer techniques and devices by a physical or occupational therapist, or a physician knowledgeable in transfer techniques and devices **AND**
- The device prescribed maximizes beneficiary independence **AND**
- The beneficiary and/or caregivers have been fully trained in the proper technique for use of the device.

Clinical guidelines for repeat service or procedure

When the cost of repairing the device is greater than 50% of the replacement cost.

Type of service or procedure covered

Transfer boards, transfer discs, stand pivot devices, low friction sliding sheets/tubes.

References

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Toro, M.L., Koontz, A.M., Kankipati, M.S., Naber, M., & Cooper, R.A. (2010). Independent wheelchair transfer: A systematic literature review. *RESNA Annual Conference 2010*. Retrieved April 14, 2011, from: http://web.resna.org/library/conference_2010/PDF%20Versions/Mobility/Student%20Scientific/Part%202/ToroM.pdf

Example of devices:

EasyPivot Patient Lifts. Rand-Scott Corporation. www.easypivot.com

Patient Care: Transfer Devices. Allegro Medical. www.allegromedical.com

One Way Shaped Roller Sheets, Bridger Facility, Shaped Flat Slide Sheets. Phil-E-Slide. www.phil-e-slide-us.com

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