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|  | <p align="center">Gait Trainers and Standers Guidelines</p> | |
| <p align="center">Guideline # 6180</p> | <p align="center">Categories Clinical → Care Management CM, TCHP Guidelines, Utilization Management UM</p> | <p align="center">This Guideline Applies To: Texas Children's Health Plan</p> |
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GUIDELINE STATEMENT:

Texas Children's Health Plan (TCHP) performs authorization of all gait trainers and standers, including all accessories.

DEFINITIONS:

- A stander is a device used by a client with neuromuscular conditions who is unable to stand alone. Standers and standing programs can improve digestion, increase muscle strength, decrease contractures, increase bone density, and minimize decalcification (this list is not all inclusive).
- Gait trainers are devices with wheels used to train clients with ambulatory potential. They provide the same benefits as the stander, in addition to assisting with gait training.

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION GUIDELINES

1. All requests for prior authorization for Gait Trainers or Standers are received via online submission, fax, phone or mail by the Utilization Management Department and processed during normal business hours.
2. The Utilization Management professional receiving the request evaluates the submitted information to determine if the documentation supports the Gait Trainers or Stander as an eligible service.
3. To request prior authorization for Standers, the following documentation must be provided:
 - 3.1. Diagnoses relevant to the requested equipment, including functioning level and ambulatory status
 - 3.2. Anticipated benefits of the equipment
 - 3.3. Frequency and duration of the client's standing program
 - 3.4. Anticipated length of time the client will require this equipment
 - 3.5. Client's height, weight, and age
 - 3.6. Anticipated changes in the client's needs, anticipated modifications, or accessory needs, as well as the growth potential of the stander
4. To request prior authorization for Gait Trainers, the following documentation must be provided:

- 4.1. All required documentation for a stander AND
 - 4.2. documentation that the member has ambulatory potential and benefits from a gait training program AND
 - 4.3. an assessment of the accessibility of the client's residence to ensure that the gait trainer is usable in the home
5. A stander or gait trainer with trunk support is considered **medically necessary** for an individual who meets **all** of the following criteria:
- 5.1. Is 20 years of age or younger; **and**
 - 5.2. Has a documented acquired injury (for example, spinal cord or traumatic brain injury [TBI]) **or** a documented chronic physical limitation that affects the ability to ambulate (for example, cerebral palsy [CP], neuromuscular disease, or spina bifida); **and**
 - 5.3. Requires moderate to maximum support for standing or ambulation; **and**
 - 5.4. Demonstrates the ability to stand or ambulate with the device.
6. Requests that do not meet the criteria established by this procedure will be referred to a TCHP Medical Director/Physician Reviewer for review and the Denial Policy will be followed.
7. Preauthorization is based on medical necessity and not a guarantee of benefits or eligibility. Even if preauthorization is approved for treatment or a particular service, that authorization applies only to the medical necessity of treatment or service. All services are subject to benefit limitations and exclusions. Providers are subject to State and Federal Regulatory compliance and failure to comply may result in retrospective audit and potential financial recoupment.

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Government Agency, Medical Society, and Other Publications:

- Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual Accessed May 2019
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