

## Commode Chairs With Seat Lift Mechanism

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### IMPORTANT REMINDER

*The Medicare Advantage Medical Policy manual is not intended to override the member Evidence of Coverage (EOC), which defines the insured's benefits, nor is it intended to dictate how providers are to practice medicine. Physicians and other health care providers are expected to exercise their medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care for the individual member.*

*The Medicare Advantage Medical Policies are designed to provide guidance regarding the decision-making process for the coverage or non-coverage of services or procedures in accordance with the member EOC and the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) policies, when available. In the event of a conflict, applicable CMS policy or EOC language will take precedence over the Medicare Advantage Medical Policy. In the absence of CMS guidance for a requested service or procedure, the health plan may apply their Medical Policy Manual or MCG™ criteria, both of which are developed with an objective, evidence-based process using scientific evidence, current generally accepted standards of medical practice, and authoritative clinical practice guidelines.*

*Medicare and EOCs exclude from coverage, among other things, services or procedures considered to be investigational, cosmetic, or not medically necessary, and in some cases, providers may bill members for these non-covered services or procedures. Providers are encouraged to inform members in advance when they may be financially responsible for the cost of non-covered or excluded services.*

## DESCRIPTION

A commode is a portable toilet for patients who are unable to use regular bathroom facilities. A variety of commodes have been developed to meet patients' needs, including commodes with seat lift mechanisms.

## MEDICARE ADVANTAGE POLICY CRITERIA

<b>CMS Coverage Manuals*</b>	None
<b>National Coverage Determinations (NCDs)*</b>	None
<b>Noridian Healthcare Solutions (Noridian) Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) and Articles (LCAs)*</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Commodes (<a href="#">L33736</a>)</li> <li>✓ Seat Lift Mechanisms (<a href="#">L33801</a>)</li> </ul>

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*“Commode chair with seat lift mechanism (E0170, E0171) is covered if the beneficiary has medical necessity for a commode and meets the coverage criteria for a seat lift mechanism... However, a commode with seat lift mechanism is intended to allow the beneficiary to walk after standing. If the beneficiary can ambulate, he/she would rarely meet the coverage criterion for a commode...” (LCD L33736)*

\*\*Scroll to the “Public Version(s)” section at the bottom of the LCD for links to prior versions if necessary.

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## POLICY GUIDELINES

### Required Documentation

The information below **must** be submitted for review to determine whether policy criteria are met. If any of these items are not submitted, it could impact our review and decision outcome:

- Medical records and chart notes must document the member has been diagnosed with
- severe arthritis of the hip or knee or have a severe neuromuscular disease;
- beneficiary is physically incapable of utilizing regular toilet facilities;
- The beneficiary must be completely incapable of standing up from a regular armchair or any chair in their home, but once standing, the beneficiary must have the ability to ambulate.

## CROSS REFERENCES

None

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None

## CODING

Codes	Number	Description
CPT	None	
HCPCS	E0170	Commode chair with integrated seat lift mechanism, electric, any type
	E0171	Commode chair with integrated seat lift mechanism, non-electric, any type

**\*IMPORTANT NOTE:** Medicare Advantage medical policies use the most current Medicare references available at the time the policy was developed. Links to Medicare references will take viewers to external websites outside of the health plan's web control as these sites are not maintained by the health plan.