



Nebulizers

DOCUMENTATION IN MEDICAL RECORDS REQUIRED BY CMS

Documentation Requirements	Key Items to Address
Duration of patient’s condition	Why does the patient require the item?
Clinical course	Do the physical examination findings support the need for the item?
Prognosis	Signs and symptoms that indicate the need for the item
Nature and extent of functional limitations	Diagnoses that are responsible for these signs and symptoms
Other therapeutic interventions and results	Other diagnoses that may relate to the need for the item

HCPCS code(s) affected include the following:

H0570: Nebulizer with compressor

Coverage Criteria

Small volume nebulizer and related compressor – It is documented in the beneficiary’s medical record that:

- It is reasonable and necessary to administer albuterol, arformoterol, budesonide, cromolyn, formoterol, ipratropium, levalbuterol, or metaproterenol for the management of obstructive pulmonary disease; or
- It is reasonable and necessary to administer dornase alpha to a beneficiary with cystic fibrosis; or
- It is reasonable and necessary to administer tobramycin to a beneficiary with cystic fibrosis or bronchiectasis; or
- It is reasonable and necessary to administer pentamidine to a beneficiary with HIV, pneumocystosis, or complications of organ transplants; or
- It is reasonable and necessary to administer acetylcysteine for persistent thick or tenacious pulmonary secretions.

*For some items to be covered by Medicare, a written order prior to delivery (WOPD) is required.