JOHNS HOPKINS HEALTHCARE

Policy Number CMS19.07

Medical Policy: Dynamic Splinting for the Treatment of Joint Stiffness and Contracture

Department: Health Services

Lines of Business: EHP, USFHP, PPMCO, ADVANTAGE MD

JOHNS HOPKINS HEALTHCARE

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ACTION:

☐ New Policy Number: ☑ Revising Policy Number:

☐ Superseding Policy Number: Archiving Policy Number: CMS19.07

☐ Retiring Policy Number:

Johns Hopkins HealthCare LLC (JHHC) provides a full spectrum of health care products and services for Employer Health Programs, Priority Partners, Advantage MD, and US Family Health Plan. Each line of business possesses its own unique contract and guidelines which, for benefit and payment purposes, should be consulted to know what benefits are available for reimbursement. Specific contract benefits, guidelines or policies supersede the information outlined in this policy.

ACTIVE AND ARCHIVED

This document has been archived as of 09/04/2015 and is no longer scheduled for review for either one or more of the following reasons:

1. This document is either primarily administrative in nature AND/OR
2. It addresses operational issues only AND/OR
3. It is mandated by statute or regulation AND/OR
4. It is unlikely that further published literature would change the determination

ARCHIVED POLICIES REMAIN ACTIVE FOR THE PURPOSE OF MEDICAL NECESSITY DETERMINATION

POLICY:

For Advantage MD, see Medicare Coverage Database:

Local Coverage Determination (LCD): Therapy And Rehabilitation Services (PT, OT) (L35036)

I. When benefits are provided under the member’s contract, JHHC considers dynamic splinting devices for use on the knee, elbow, wrist or finger medically necessary durable medical equipment when one of the two following conditions are met:

A. As an adjunct to physical therapy in the sub-acute injury or post-operative period (> 3 weeks but ≤ 4 months after injury or operation) in patients with signs and symptoms of persistent joint stiffness, OR;

B. In the acute post-operative period for patients who are undergoing additional surgery to improve the range of motion of a previously affected joint.
II. Unless specific benefits are provided under the member’s contract, JHHC considers the following experimental and investigational as they do not meet Technology Evaluation Criteria (TEC) #2-5:

A. Dynamic splinting for the following:
   1. The management of chronic joint stiffness and/or chronic or fixed contractures.
   2. For use in shoulders or any other condition not listed above.
   3. For prophylactic use.
   4. For continued use if no significant improvement in range of motion after 4 (four) months of use.

B. Bi-directional static progressive stretch splinting, Joint Active Systems and Flexionators/Extensionators.

C. Use of dynamic splinting for the following medical indications:
   1. Carpal tunnel syndrome
   2. Cerebral Palsy
   3. Foot drop secondary to neuromuscular disease
   4. Head and spinal cord injuries
   5. Injuries of the ankle and shoulder
   6. Multiple sclerosis
   7. Muscular dystrophy
   8. Plantar fasciitis
   9. Rheumatoid arthritis
   10. Stroke
   11. Trismus

III. Requests for continued dynamic splinting beyond 4 months or for any conditions not listed in II. above may receive individual consideration when accompanied by medical records, a plan of care and supporting peer-reviewed medical literature.

**BACKGROUND:**

Spring loaded dynamic splints and bi-directional static progressive stretch splints are intended to stretch joints that have reduced range of motion secondary to immobilization, surgery, contracture, fracture, dislocation, or a number of additional non traumatic disorders. The goal is to cause permanent elongation of the connective tissue in order to increase range of motion. Most dynamic splinting devices are adjustable-tension controlled units designed to provide a low load, prolonged stretch to joints used commonly while patients are asleep or at rest for 6 to 12 hours. The Dynasplint® Systems and other splinting systems have been developed for the treatment of stiffness and contractures for many joints. The strength of peer reviewed scientific evidence supporting the use of these devices varies by medical condition, joint and device.
A static progressive stretch device applies a different biomechanical principle than dynamic splinting devices. Static progressive stretch devices are used typically 30 minutes, 2 to 3 times per day. These technologies are widely used by the Orthopedic and Physical Therapy communities for selected patient populations.

CODING INFORMATION:

CPT Copyright 2015 American Medical Association. All rights reserved. CPT is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association.

Note: The following CPT/HCPCS codes are included below for informational purposes. Inclusion or exclusion of a CPT/HCPCS code(s) below does not signify or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement. The member's specific benefit plan determines coverage and referral requirements. All inpatient admissions require pre-authorization.

PRE-AUTHORIZATION REQUIRED
Compliance with the provision in this policy may be monitored and addressed through post-payment data analysis and/or medical review audits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CPT® CODES</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>97760</td>
<td>Orthotic(s) management and training (including assessment and fitting when not otherwise reported), upper extremity(s), lower extremity(s) and/or trunk, each 15 minutes (97760 should not be reported with 97116 for the same extremity)</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>HCPCS CODE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E1800</td>
<td>Dynamic adjustable elbow extension/flexion device, includes soft interface material</td>
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<tr>
<td>E1802</td>
<td>Dynamic adjustable forearm pronation/supination device, includes soft interface material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E1805</td>
<td>Dynamic adjustable wrist extension/flexion device, includes soft interface material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E1810</td>
<td>Dynamic adjustable knee extension/flexion device, includes soft interface material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E1812</td>
<td>Dynamic knee, extension/flexion device with active resistance control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E1815</td>
<td>Dynamic adjustable ankle extension/flexion device, includes soft interface material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E1820</td>
<td>Replacement soft interface material, dynamic adjustable extension/flexion device</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**E1825** Dynamic adjustable finger extension/flexion device, includes soft interface material

**E1830** Dynamic adjustable toe extension/flexion device, includes soft interface material

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**NO PRE-AUTHORIZATION REQUIRED**

*Compliance with the provision in this policy may be monitored and addressed through post-payment data analysis and/or medical review audits*

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<th>CPT ® CODES</th>
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<tr>
<td>29126</td>
<td>Application of short arm splint (forearm to hand); dynamic</td>
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<tr>
<td>29131</td>
<td>Application of finger splint; dynamic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29105</td>
<td>Application of long arm splint (shoulder to hand)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29505</td>
<td>Application of long leg splint (thigh to ankle or toes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29515</td>
<td>Application of short leg splint (calf to foot)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following HCPCS CODES are NOT COVERED for EHP, PPMCO, USFHP. They are considered investigational.

- **E1801** Static progressive stretch elbow device, extension and/or flexion, with or without range of motion adjustment, includes all components and accessories
- **E1806** Static progressive stretch wrist device, flexion and/or extension, with or without range of motion adjustment, includes all components and accessories
- **E1811** Static progressive stretch knee device, extension and/or flexion, with or without range of motion adjustment, includes all components and accessories
- **E1816** Static progressive stretch ankle device, flexion and/or extension, with or without range of motion adjustment, includes all components and accessories
- **E1818** Static progressive stretch forearm pronation/supination device, with or without range of motion adjustment, includes all components and accessories
- **E1821** Replacement soft interface material/cuffs for bi-directional static progressive stretch device
- **E1831** Static progressive stretch toe device, extension and/or flexion, with or without range of motion adjustment, includes all components and accessories
- **E1840** Dynamic adjustable shoulder flexion/abduction/rotation device, includes soft interface material
- **E1841** Static progressive stretch shoulder device, with or without range of motion

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**REFERENCE STATEMENT:**

Analyses of the scientific and clinical references cited below were conducted and utilized by the Johns Hopkins HealthCare LLC (JHHC) Medical Policy Team during the development and implementation of this medical policy. Per NCQA standards, the Medical Policy Team will continue to monitor and review any newly published clinical evidence and adjust the references below accordingly if deemed necessary.
REFERENCES:


U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Mechanical Stretching Devices are classified by the FDA as Class I medical devices. Class I devices have the least amount of regulatory control; manufacturers of these devices are exempt from premarket notification procedures and are not required to provide safety and effectiveness data prior to marketing. Retrieved from: http://www.fda.gov
