



**(Effective Date: July 1, 2013)** The Affordable Care Act requires a physician to document that the physician, PA, NP or CNS has had a face-to-face encounter examination with a beneficiary no more than six (6) months prior to the written order for certain items of DME including O<sup>2</sup>. (See below for information required with physician's written order)

## Nebulizer orders

Patient must have qualifying diagnosis and include a script for drug therapy.

### **(Medicare - Advantra Freedom - Gateway Assured - Unison Advantage guidelines)**

- ✓ The acceptable diagnosis range is 491.0 - 505
- ✓ Rental only

### **(Health America/Health Assurance guidelines)**

- ✓ Authorization one month rental then converts to purchase

### **(Blue Cross/Blue Shield guidelines)**

- ✓ Requires script
- ✓ Purchase only

### **(DPA guidelines)**

- ✓ Requires original signed script
- ✓ Three-month rental then converts to purchase

### **(Gateway guidelines)**

- ✓ Requires script
- ✓ Purchase only

### **(Unison guidelines)**

- ✓ Requires script for asthma, otherwise paper referral
- ✓ Purchase only

## CPAP and BiPAP orders

Patient must have diagnosis of OSA documented by an approved facility based polysomnogram (min. 2 hours sleep).

### **(Medicare guidelines)**

AHI ≥ 15 requires a script

AHI 5 - 14 requires script with recorded instances of:

- ✓ excessive daytime sleepiness, impaired cognition, mood disorders, insomnia, hypertension, ischemic heart disease or history of strokes

### **(Blue Cross/Blue Shield guidelines)**

AHI ≥ 5 requires

- ✓ PPO - requires sleep study and script
- ✓ Keystone - requires authorization
- ✓ Security Blue & Select Blue - requires authorization
- ✓ Supplies and humidifier require script

### **(Health America/Health Assurance guidelines)**

AHI ≥ 5 requires complete sleep study, script and authorization

### **(Medical Assistance & Gateway guidelines)**

AHI ≥ 5 requires complete sleep study and script

### **(Unison guidelines)**

AHI ≥ 5 requires script & authorization

## Oxygen orders

Patient script must contain the following four elements:

1. Drug (ex: O<sup>2</sup>)
2. Dosage (ex: 2 liters per minute)
3. Frequency (ex: 24 hours a day)
4. Route of administration (ex: nasal cannula)

### **Group I**

Arterial PO<sup>2</sup> at or below 55mmHG

Arterial O<sup>2</sup> Saturation at or below 88%

### **Group II**

Arterial PO<sup>2</sup> of 56-59mmHG or O<sup>2</sup> Saturation of 89%

**Plus** any of the following diagnoses noted in patient's chart

- Dependent Edema suggesting CHF
- Pulmonary hypertension or Cor Pulmonale, determined by measurement of pulmonary artery pressure, gated blood pool scan echocardiogram or "P" pulmonale on EKG (P wave greater than 3mm in std. Leads II, III, AVF)
- Erythrocythemia with a hematocrit greater than 56%

### **(Medicare guidelines)**

- ✓ Requires script, CMN, qualify PO<sup>2</sup> and O<sup>2</sup> Saturation while in chronic stable condition

**(In Patient)** - Testing performed no earlier than 2 days prior to discharge

**(Out Patient)** - Testing performed no earlier than 30 days prior to initial order date

**(Nocturnal)** - Testing at night with room air, must desaturate an accumulative of 5 minutes or more

### **(Blue Cross/Blue Shield guidelines)**

- ✓ Keystone & Select Blue - requires script
- ✓ Security Blue - requires script & authorization

### **(Health America/Health Assurance guidelines)**

- ✓ Requires script & authorization

### **(Medical Assistance & Gateway guidelines)**

- ✓ Requires script

### **(Unison guidelines)**

- ✓ Requires script & authorization

### Written Orders Must Include The Following:

The patient's demographics, insurance information, social security #, height, weight and alternative contact's name, address and phone number.  
**Plus CMS requires:**

1. the beneficiary's name,
2. the item of DME or O<sup>2</sup> ordered,
3. the prescribing practitioner's National Provider Identifier (NPI),
4. the signature of the ordering practitioner and
5. the date of the order.

Failure to meet any of the above requirements will result in denial of the claim.

### Our Locations

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