

# Miscellaneous Orthotics and Braces, DME 251

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<u>Version</u>	1

**Member-specific benefits take precedence over medical policy and benefits may vary across plans. Refer to the individual's benefit plan for details <sup>\*</sup>.**

## Purpose:

This policy addresses the medical necessity of Miscellaneous Orthotics and Braces.

## Description & Definitions:

Orthotics and braces are used to support joints and/or prevent movement following an injury, or surgery.

## Criteria:

Custom brace needed, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:

- Abnormal limb contour interferes with use of prefabricated orthosis
- Child or person of short stature, when pediatric prefabricated orthosis is not sufficient
- Contracture or deformity interferes with fitting of prefabricated orthosis
- Minimal muscle mass limits suspension of prefabricated orthosis.
- Person of tall stature, when extensions for prefabricated orthosis are not sufficient
- Tried and failed use of prefabricated orthosis

Miscellaneous Orthotics and Braces is considered **not medically necessary** for any use other than those indicated in the clinical criteria, to include but not limited to:

- Pregnancy Belt

## Coding:

Medically necessary with criteria:

Coding	Description
L2106	Ankle-foot orthosis (AFO), fracture orthosis, tibial fracture cast orthosis, thermoplastic type casting material, custom fabricated
L2108	Ankle-foot orthosis (AFO), fracture orthosis, tibial fracture cast orthosis, custom fabricated

L2112	Ankle-foot orthosis (AFO), fracture orthosis, tibial fracture orthosis, soft, prefabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L2116	Ankle-foot orthosis (AFO), fracture orthosis, tibial fracture orthosis, rigid, prefabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L2126	Knee-ankle-foot orthosis (KAFO), fracture orthosis, femoral fracture cast orthosis, thermoplastic type casting material, custom fabricated
L2128	Knee-ankle-foot orthosis (KAFO), fracture orthosis, femoral fracture cast orthosis, custom fabricated
L2132	Knee-ankle-foot orthosis (KAFO), fracture orthosis, femoral fracture cast orthosis, soft, prefabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L2134	Knee-ankle-foot orthosis (KAFO), fracture orthosis, femoral fracture cast orthosis, semi-rigid, prefabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L2136	Knee-ankle-foot orthosis (KAFO), fracture orthosis, femoral fracture cast orthosis, rigid, prefabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L3763	Elbow-wrist-hand orthosis (EWHO), rigid, without joints, may include soft interface, straps, custom fabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L3764	Elbow-wrist-hand orthosis (EWHO), includes one or more nontorsion joints, elastic bands, turnbuckles, may include soft interface, straps, custom fabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L3905	Wrist-hand orthosis (WHO), includes one or more nontorsion joints, elastic bands, turnbuckles, may include soft interface, straps, custom fabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L1681	Hip orthosis (HO), bilateral hip joints and thigh cuffs, adjustable flexion, extension, abduction control of hip joint, postoperative hip abduction type, prefabricated item that has been trimmed, bent, molded, assembled, or otherwise customized to fit a specific patient by an individual with expertise
L1685	Hip orthosis (HO), abduction control of hip joint, postoperative hip abduction type, custom fabricated
L1686	Hip orthosis (HO), abduction control of hip joint, postoperative hip abduction type, prefabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L1907	Ankle orthosis (AO), supramalleolar with straps, with or without interface/pads, custom fabricated
L2034	Knee-ankle-foot orthosis (KAFO), full plastic, single upright, with or without free motion knee, medial-lateral rotation control, with or without free motion ankle, custom fabricated

L2387	Addition to lower extremity, polycentric knee joint, for custom fabricated knee-ankle-foot orthosis (KAFO), each joint
L3760	Elbow orthosis (EO), with adjustable position locking joint(s), prefabricated, item that has been trimmed, bent, molded, assembled, or otherwise customized to fit a specific patient by an individual with expertise
L3765	Elbow-wrist-hand-finger orthosis (EWHFO), rigid, without joints, may include soft interface, straps, custom fabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L3961	Shoulder-elbow-wrist-hand orthosis (SEWHO), shoulder cap design, without joints, may include soft interface, straps, custom fabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L3967	Shoulder-elbow-wrist-hand orthosis (SEWHO), abduction positioning (airplane design), thoracic component and support bar, without joints, may include soft interface, straps, custom fabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L3971	Shoulder-elbow-wrist-hand orthotic (SEWHO), shoulder cap design, includes one or more nontorsion joints, elastic bands, turnbuckles, may include soft interface, straps, custom fabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L3973	Shoulder-elbow-wrist-hand orthosis (SEWHO), abduction positioning (airplane design), thoracic component and support bar, includes one or more nontorsion joints, elastic bands, turnbuckles, may include soft interface, straps, custom fabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L3975	Shoulder-elbow-wrist-hand-finger orthosis (SEWHO), shoulder cap design, without joints, may include soft interface, straps, custom fabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L3976	Shoulder-elbow-wrist-hand-finger orthosis (SEWHO), abduction positioning (airplane design), thoracic component and support bar, without joints, may include soft interface, straps, custom fabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L3977	Shoulder-elbow-wrist-hand-finger orthosis (SEWHO), shoulder cap design, includes one or more nontorsion joints, elastic bands, turnbuckles, may include soft interface, straps, custom fabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L3978	Shoulder-elbow-wrist-hand-finger orthosis (SEWHO), abduction positioning (airplane design), thoracic component and support bar, includes one or more nontorsion joints, elastic bands, turnbuckles, may include soft interface, straps, custom fabricated, includes fitting and adjustment
L8701	Powered upper extremity range of motion assist device, elbow, wrist, hand with single or double upright(s), includes microprocessor, sensors, all components and accessories, custom fabricated
L8702	Powered upper extremity range of motion assist device, elbow, wrist, hand, finger, single or double upright(s), includes microprocessor, sensors, all components and accessories, custom fabricated

Considered Not Medically Necessary:

Coding	Description
	None

U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) - approved only products only.

## Document History:

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- 2024: June

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## References:

Including but not limited to: Specialty Association Guidelines; Government Regulations; Winifred S. Hayes, Inc; UpToDate; Literature Review; Specialty Advisors; National Coverage Determination (NCD); Local Coverage Determination (LCD).

(2023, Sep 21). Retrieved May 10, 2024, from MCG: <https://careweb.careguidelines.com/ed27/index.html>

21 CFR Part 888 Subpart D - Prosthetic Devices. (2022, Mar 01). Retrieved May 13, 2024, from Code of Federal Regulations: <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-21/part-888/subpart-D>

Braces and Splints for Common Musculoskeletal Conditions. (2018, Nov 15). Retrieved May 02, 2024, from American Family Physician: <https://www.aafp.org/pubs/afp/issues/2018/1115/p570.html>

Hip and Knee Bracing: Categorization, Treatment Algorithm, and Systematic Review. (2021, Jun). Retrieved May 02, 2024, from PubMed: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8189624/>

LCD: Ankle-Foot/Knee-Ankle-Foot Orthosis (L33686). (2024, Jan 23). Retrieved May 02, 2024, from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/view/lcd.aspx?lcdid=33686&ver=30&keyword=orthotic&keywordType=starts&areald=s53&docType=NC A,CAL,NCD,MEDCAC,TA,MCD,6,3,5,1,F,P&contractOption=all&sortBy=relevance&bc=1>

LCD: Knee Orthoses (L33318). (2020, Jan 01). Retrieved May 02, 2024, from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/view/lcd.aspx?lcdid=33318&ver=47&keyword=orthotic&keywordType=starts&areald=s53&docType=NC A,CAL,NCD,MEDCAC,TA,MCD,6,3,5,1,F,P&contractOption=all&sortBy=relevance&bc=1>

Provider Manual Title: Durable Medical Equipment - Chapter IV: Covered Services and Limitations. (2024, Jan 04). Retrieved May 02, 2024, from Department of Medical Assistance Services - MES Public Portal: <https://vamedicaid.dmas.virginia.gov/manuals/provider-manuals-library#gsc.tab=0>

WHO standards for prosthetics and orthotics. (2017, Feb 01). Retrieved May 13, 2024, from World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241512480>

## Special Notes: \*

Medical policies can be highly technical and complex and are provided here for informational purposes. These medical policies are intended for use by health care professionals. The medical policies do not constitute medical advice or medical care. Treating health care professionals are solely responsible for diagnosis, treatment, and medical advice. Sentara Health Plan members should discuss the information in the medical policies with their treating health care professionals. Medical technology is constantly evolving, and these medical policies are subject to change without notice, although Sentara Health Plan will notify providers as required in advance of changes that could have a negative impact on benefits.

Services mean both medical and behavioral health (mental health) services and supplies unless We specifically tell You otherwise. We do not cover any services that are not listed in the Covered Services section unless required to be covered under state or federal laws and regulations. We do not cover any services that are not Medically Necessary. We sometimes give examples of specific services that are not covered but that does not mean that other similar services are covered. Some services are covered only if We authorize them. When We say You or Your We mean You and any of Your family members covered under the Plan. Call Member Services if You have questions.

### MUST SEE MEMBER BENEFIT FOR DETERMINATION.

We only cover DME that is Medically Necessary and prescribed by an appropriate Provider. We also cover colostomy, ileostomy, and tracheostomy supplies, and suction and urinary catheters. We do not cover DME used primarily for the comfort and wellbeing of a Member. We will not cover DME if We deem it useful, but not absolutely necessary for Your care. We will not cover DME if there are similar items available at a lower cost that will provide essentially the same results as the more expensive items.

Pre-Authorization is Required for All Rental Items.

Pre-Authorization is Required for All Repair and Replacement.

## Keywords:

Orthotics, Braces, Joints, Support Joints, Pregnancy Belt, Belly Band, custom-fabricated