

Standing Frame

Plan: AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana

Clinical Policy ID: CCP.4031

Recent review date: 1/2025

Next review date: 5/2026

Policy contains: Standing frame; wheelchair.

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana has developed clinical policies to assist with making coverage determinations. AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana's clinical policies are based on guidelines from established industry sources, such as the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), state regulatory agencies, the American Medical Association (AMA), medical specialty professional societies, and peer-reviewed professional literature. These clinical policies along with other sources, such as plan benefits and state and federal laws and regulatory requirements, including any state- or plan-specific definition of "medically necessary," and the specific facts of the particular situation are considered by AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana when making coverage determinations. In the event of conflict between this clinical policy and plan benefits and/or state or federal laws and/or regulatory requirements, the plan benefits and/or state and federal laws and/or regulatory requirements shall control. AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana's clinical policies are for informational purposes only and not intended as medical advice or to direct treatment. Physicians and other health care providers are solely responsible for the treatment decisions for their patients. AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana's clinical policies are reflective of evidence-based medicine at the time of review. As medical science evolves, AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana will update its clinical policies as necessary. AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana's clinical policies are not guarantees of payment.

Policy statement

A standing frame (also known as a stander, standing aid, standing device) is assistive technology that can be used by a member who relies on a wheelchair for mobility. A standing frame provides alternative positioning to sitting in a wheelchair by supporting the member in the standing position.

Specific Criteria

The criteria to be considered for a standing frame include, but are not limited to, the following.

The member must:

- Be at a high risk for lower extremity contractures that cannot be improved with other interventions (stretching, medications, serial casting, splinting, and modalities);
- Be able to tolerate a standing or upright position on the foot and ankle;
- Be non-ambulatory or is unable to stand due to conditions such as, but not limited to, neuromuscular or congenital disorders, including acquired skeletal abnormalities;
- Have tried more cost effective alternatives and still requires a stander;
- Not have a walker or gait trainer and it is not anticipated they will require one;

- Have demonstrated improved mobility, function and physiologic symptoms or has maintained status with the use of the requested stander and is able to follow a home standing program with the use of the requested stander; and
- Use the equipment for personal use only. The equipment will not be used at school.

Exclusion Criteria

Non-coverage of the standing frame includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Member has complete paralysis of the lower extremities;
- There is no expected improvement in mobility or maintenance of function;
- Anticipated functional benefits of standing can be achieved through less-costly alternatives;
- Mobile (dynamic) stander – either self-propelled standers or standers with powered mobility;
- Active stander – allows movement of the arms and legs in a standing position;
- In members with syncope, orthostatic hypotension, postural tachycardia syndrome, osteogenesis imperfecta, osteoporosis, and other brittle bone diseases, and hip subluxation;
- Member with hip and knee flexion contractures of more than 20 degrees; and
- Member who has a gait trainer or ambulatory device.

Documentation Requirements

The following documentation must be submitted to support the medical necessity for this equipment:

- Prior Authorization (PA-01 form);
- Physician prescription;
- State of Louisiana Medicaid Standing Frame Evaluation (BHSF-SF-Form 1) completed by a Louisiana State License Physician and Physical or Occupational Therapist in its entirety; and
- Original Manufacture price.

References

Louisiana Department of Health. 2010. Durable Medical Equipment Provider Manual. Standing Frame. Chapter 18, Section 18.2.19.4. Replaced April 14, 2023. Issued xx/xx/24.

Policy updates

Initial review date: 3/2/2021

3/2023: Policy references updated.

1/2024: Policy references updated.

1/2025: Policy references updated.