

Ankle-Foot/Knee-Ankle-Foot Orthosis

Description

For an orthotic item to be considered for coverage, it must be a rigid or semi-rigid device which is used for the purpose of supporting a weak or deformed body member or restricting or eliminating motion in a diseased or injured part of the body. It must provide sufficient support to the limb or body part for which it is designed to brace. Items that do not meet the definition of a brace are considered not reasonable and necessary.

Policy

An ankle-foot orthoses (AFO) and knee-ankle-foot orthoses (KAFO) are **reasonable and necessary** for members who meet the coverage criteria outlined below and must be ordered by the member's treating practitioner.

Policy Guidelines

Medicare Member Coverage Criteria:

Refer to Medicare's medical policy (L33686) and article (A52457) for coverage criteria.

Non-Medicare Member Coverage Criteria:

Coverage Criteria:

AFOS NOT USED DURING AMBULATION OR MINIMALLY AMBULATORY:

An L4396 or L4397 (Static or dynamic positioning ankle-foot orthosis) is covered if either all of criteria 1 - 4 or criterion 5 is met:

- 1. Plantar flexion contracture of the ankle (see Diagnosis Codes That Support Medical Necessity Group 1 Codes section) with dorsiflexion on passive range of motion testing of at least 10 degrees (i.e., a non-fixed contracture); and,
- 2. Reasonable expectation of the ability to correct the contracture; and,
- 3. Contracture is interfering or expected to interfere significantly with the member's functional abilities; and,
- 4. Used as a component of a therapy program which includes active stretching of the involved muscles and/or tendons.
- 5. The member has plantar fasciitis (see Diagnosis Codes That Support Medical Necessity Group 1 Codes section)



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If an L4396 or L4397 is used for the treatment of a plantar flexion contracture, the pretreatment passive range of motion must be measured with a goniometer and documented in the medical record. There must be documentation of an appropriate stretching program carried out by professional staff (in a nursing facility) or caregiver (at home).

An L4396 or L4397 and replacement interface (L4392) will be denied as not reasonable and necessary if the contracture is fixed. Codes L4396, L4397 and L4392 will be denied as not reasonable and necessary for a member with a foot drop but without an ankle flexion contracture. A component of a static/dynamic AFO that is used to address positioning of the knee or hip will be denied as not reasonable and necessary because the effectiveness of this type of component is not established.

If code L4396 or L4397 is covered, a replacement interface (L4392) is covered as long as the member continues to meet indications and other coverage rules for the splint. Coverage of a replacement interface is limited to a maximum of one (1) per 6 months. Additional interfaces will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

A foot drop splint/recumbent positioning device (L4398) and replacement interface (L4394) will be denied as not reasonable and necessary. A foot drop splint/recumbent positioning device and replacement interface will be denied as not reasonable and necessary in a member with foot drop who is non-ambulatory because there are other more appropriate treatment modalities.

AFOs AND KAFOS USED DURING AMBULATION:

Ankle-foot orthoses (AFO) described by codes L1900, L1902-L1990, L2106-L2116, L4350, L4360, L4361, L4386, L4387 and L4631 are covered for ambulatory members with weakness or deformity of the foot and ankle, who:

- 1. Require stabilization for medical reasons, and,
- 2. Have the potential to benefit functionally.

Knee-ankle-foot orthoses (KAFO) described by codes L2000-L2038, L2126-L2136, and L4370 are covered for ambulatory members for whom an ankle-foot orthosis is covered and for whom additional knee stability is required.

If the basic coverage criteria for an AFO or KAFO are not met, the orthosis will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

Prefabricated orthotics are:

• Manufactured in quantity without a specific member in mind.



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- It may be OTS (off the shelf) or custom fitted (may be trimmed, bent or molded or otherwise modified for use by a member).
- An orthosis that is assembled from pre-fabricated components is considered prefabricated.
- It is inherent in the definition of pre-fabricated that a particular item is complete.

Prefabricated walking boots are coded using codes L4360, L4361, L4386 or L4387. These codes describe complete products. Claims for add-on codes used with walking boots coded L4360, L4361, L4386 or L4387 will be denied as unbundling.

Custom fitted orthotics are:

- They may or may not be supplied as a kit that requires some assembly. Assembly
 of the item and/or installation of add-on components and/or the use of some basic
 materials in preparation of the item does not change classification from OTS to
 custom fitted.
- Classification as custom fitted requires more than minimal self-adjustment for fitting at the time of delivery in order to provide an individualized fit, i.e., the item must be trimmed, bent, molded (with or without heat), or otherwise modified resulting in alterations **beyond** minimal self-adjustment.
- This fitting at delivery does require expertise of a certified orthotist or an individual who has specialized training in the provision of orthosis to fit the item to the individual beneficiary.

In contrast to "minimal self-adjustment," "more than minimal self-adjustment" is defined as changes made to achieve an individualized fit during the final fitting at the time of delivery of the item that requires the expertise of a certified orthotist or an individual who has equivalent specialized training in the provision of orthotics in compliance with all applicable Federal and State licensure and regulatory requirements. A certified orthotist is defined as an individual who is certified by the American Board for Certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics, Inc., or by the Board for Orthotist/Prosthetist Certification.

AFOs and KAFOs that are custom-fabricated are covered for ambulatory members when the basic coverage criteria listed above and one of the following criteria are met:

- 1. The member could not be fit with a prefabricated AFO; or,
- 2. The condition necessitating the orthosis is expected to be permanent or of longstanding duration (more than 6 months); or,



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- 3. There is a need to control the knee, ankle or foot in more than one plane; or,
- 4. The member has a documented neurological, circulatory, or orthopedic status that requires custom fabricating to prevent tissue injury; or,
- 5. The member has a healing fracture which lacks normal anatomical integrity or anthropometric proportions.

If a custom fabricated orthosis is provided but basic coverage criteria above and the additional criteria 1-5 for a custom fabricated orthosis are not met, the custom fabricated orthosis will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

Use of an additive manufacturing technique, CAD/CAM, or a similar manufacturing technique is not the sole requirement for a product to be designated as custom fabricated.

Additive manufacturing (such as 3D printing) is an advanced technology that constructs three-dimensional items modeled and designed from CAD software and/or from digital scanning. Additive manufacturing is an acceptable custom fabrication technique as long as it adheres to the CMS guidelines.

L coded additions to AFOs and KAFOs (L2180-L2550, L2750-L2768, L2780-L2830) will be denied as not reasonable and necessary if either the base orthosis is not reasonable and necessary or the specific addition is not reasonable and necessary.

Concentric adjustable torsion style mechanisms used to assist knee joint extension are coded as L2999 and are covered for members who require knee extension assist in the absence of any co-existing joint contracture.

Concentric adjustable torsion style mechanisms used to assist ankle joint plantarflexion or dorsiflexion are coded as L2999 and are covered for members who require ankle plantar or dorsiflexion assist in the absence of any co-existing joint contracture.

Concentric adjustable torsion style mechanisms used for the treatment of contractures, regardless of any co-existing condition(s), are coded as E1810, E1813, E1814, E1815, E1822 and/or E1823 and are covered under the Durable Medical Equipment benefit (see related Policy Article Coding Guidelines for additional information).

Claims for devices incorporating concentric adjustable torsion style mechanisms used for the treatment of any joint contracture and coded as L2999 will be denied as incorrect coding.

Elastic or other fabric support garments A4467 (Belt, Strap, Sleeve, Garment or Covering, Any Type) with or without stays or panels do not meet the definition of a brace because they are not rigid or semi-rigid devices. Code A4467 is denied as noncovered.



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An inversion/eversion correction device (A9285) is denied as noncovered, because it does not act as a brace; that is, it does not support a weak or deformed body member or restrict or eliminate motion in a diseased or injured part of the body.

Socks (L2840, L2850) used in conjunction with orthoses are denied as noncovered.

Refer to the Orthopedic Footwear policy for information on coverage of shoes and related items which are an integral part of a brace.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Replacement of a complete orthosis or component of an orthosis due to loss, significant change in the member's condition, or irreparable accidental damage is covered if the device is still reasonable and necessary. The reason for the replacement must be documented in the supplier's record.

Replacement components (e.g., soft interfaces) that are provided on a routine basis, without regard to whether the original item is worn out, are denied as not reasonable and necessary.

The right (RT) and left (LT) modifiers must be used with orthosis base codes, additions, and replacement parts. Effective for claims with dates of service (DOS) on or after 3/1/2019, when the same code for bilateral items (left and right) is billed on the same date of service, bill each item on two separate claim lines using the RT and LT modifiers and 1 unit of service (UOS) on each claim line. Do not use the RTLT modifier on the same claim line and billed with 2 UOS. Claims billed without modifiers RT and/or LT, or with RTLT on the same claim line and 2 UOS, will be rejected as incorrect coding.

HCPCS CODES:

Group 1 Codes:

HCPCS	Description
A4467	BELT, STRAP, SLEEVE, GARMENT, OR COVERING, ANY TYPE, EACH
A9283	FOOT PRESSURE OFF LOADING/SUPPORTIVE DEVICE, ANY TYPE, EACH
A9285	INVERSION/EVERSION CORRECTION DEVICE
L1900	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, SPRING WIRE, DORSIFLEXION ASSIST CALF BAND, CUSTOM-FABRICATED
L1902	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, ANKLE GAUNTLET, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
L1904	ANKLE ORTHOSIS, ANKLE GAUNTLET, CUSTOM-FABRICATED



HCPCS	Description
L1906	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, MULTILIGAMENTUS ANKLE SUPPORT, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
L1907	ANKLE ORTHOSIS, SUPRAMALLEOLAR WITH STRAPS, WITH OR WITHOUT INTERFACE/PADS, CUSTOM FABRICATED
L1910	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, POSTERIOR, SINGLE BAR, CLASP ATTACHMENT TO SHOE COUNTER, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
L1920	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, SINGLE UPRIGHT WITH STATIC OR ADJUSTABLE STOP (PHELPS OR PERLSTEIN TYPE), CUSTOM- FABRICATED
L1930	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, PLASTIC OR OTHER MATERIAL, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
L1932	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, RIGID ANTERIOR TIBIAL SECTION, TOTAL CARBON FIBER OR EQUAL MATERIAL, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE
L1933	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, RIGID ANTERIOR TIBIAL SECTION, TOTAL CARBON FIBER OR EQUAL MATERIAL, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
L1940	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, PLASTIC OR OTHER MATERIAL, CUSTOM-FABRICATED
L1945	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, PLASTIC, RIGID ANTERIOR TIBIAL SECTION (FLOOR REACTION), CUSTOM-FABRICATED
L1950	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, SPIRAL, (INSTITUTE OF REHABILITATIVE MEDICINE TYPE), PLASTIC, CUSTOM-FABRICATED
L1951	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, SPIRAL, (INSTITUTE OF REHABILITATIVE MEDICINE TYPE), PLASTIC OR OTHER MATERIAL, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE
L1952	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, SPIRAL, (INSTITUTE OF REHABILITATIVE MEDICINE TYPE), PLASTIC OR OTHER MATERIAL, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
L1960	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, POSTERIOR SOLID ANKLE, PLASTIC, CUSTOM-FABRICATED
L1970	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, PLASTIC WITH ANKLE JOINT, CUSTOM-FABRICATED



HCPCS	Description
	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, PLASTIC OR OTHER MATERIAL WITH
L1971	ANKLE JOINT, WITH OR WITHOUT DORSIFLEXION ASSIST,
	PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, SINGLE UPRIGHT FREE PLANTAR
L1980	DORSIFLEXION, SOLID STIRRUP, CALF BAND/CUFF (SINGLE BAR
	'BK' ORTHOSIS), CUSTOM-FABRICATED
	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, DOUBLE UPRIGHT FREE PLANTAR
L1990	DORSIFLEXION, SOLID STIRRUP, CALF BAND/CUFF (DOUBLE
L1770	BAR 'BK' ORTHOSIS), CUSTOM-FABRICATED
	KNEE ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, SINGLE UPRIGHT, FREE KNEE,
L2000	FREE ANKLE, SOLID STIRRUP, THIGH AND CALF BANDS/CUFFS
	(SINGLE BAR 'AK' ORTHOSIS), CUSTOM-FABRICATED
	KNEE ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, ANY MATERIAL, SINGLE OR
I 2005	DOUBLE UPRIGHT, STANCE CONTROL, AUTOMATIC LOCK AND
L2005	SWING PHASE RELEASE, ANY TYPE ACTIVATION, INCLUDES
	ANKLE JOINT, ANY TYPE, CUSTOM FABRICATED
	KNEE ANKLE FOOT DEVICE, ANY MATERIAL, SINGLE OR
	ANKLE JOINT, ANY TYPE, CUSTOM FABRICATED
L2006	·
L2006	
	KNEE ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, SINGLE UPRIGHT, FREE ANKLE,
L2010	SOLID STIRRUP, THIGH AND CALF BANDS/CUFFS (SINGLE BAR
	'AK' ORTHOSIS), WITHOUT KNEE JOINT, CUSTOM-FABRICATED
	KNEE ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, DOUBLE UPRIGHT, FREE ANKLE,
L2020	SOLID STIRRUP, THIGH AND CALF BANDS/CUFFS (DOUBLE BAR
	'AK' ORTHOSIS), CUSTOM-FABRICATED
	KNEE ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, DOUBLE UPRIGHT, FREE ANKLE,
L2030	SOLID STIRRUP, THIGH AND CALF BANDS/CUFFS, (DOUBLE BAR
	'AK' ORTHOSIS), WITHOUT KNEE JOINT, CUSTOM FABRICATED
	KNEE ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, FULL PLASTIC, SINGLE UPRIGHT,
L2034	WITH OR WITHOUT FREE MOTION KNEE, MEDIAL LATERAL
2203 .	ROTATION CONTROL, WITH OR WITHOUT FREE MOTION ANKLE,
	CUSTOM FABRICATED
	KNEE ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, FULL PLASTIC, STATIC
L2035	(PEDIATRIC SIZE), WITHOUT FREE MOTION ANKLE,
	PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
L2036	KNEE ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, FULL PLASTIC, DOUBLE



HCPCS	Description
	UPRIGHT, WITH OR WITHOUT FREE MOTION KNEE, WITH OR
	WITHOUT FREE MOTION ANKLE, CUSTOM FABRICATED
	KNEE ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, FULL PLASTIC, SINGLE UPRIGHT,
L2037	WITH OR WITHOUT FREE MOTION KNEE, WITH OR WITHOUT
	FREE MOTION ANKLE, CUSTOM FABRICATED
1.2020	KNEE ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, FULL PLASTIC, WITH OR
L2038	WITHOUT FREE MOTION KNEE, MULTI-AXIS ANKLE, CUSTOM FABRICATED
	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, TIBIAL
L2106	FRACTURE CAST ORTHOSIS, THERMOPLASTIC TYPE CASTING
L2100	MATERIAL, CUSTOM-FABRICATED
1.2100	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, TIBIAL
L2108	FRACTURE CAST ORTHOSIS, CUSTOM-FABRICATED
	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, TIBIAL
L2112	FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, SOFT, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES
	FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
T 0444	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, TIBIAL
L2114	FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, SEMI-RIGID, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES
	FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
L2116	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, TIBIAL FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, RIGID, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES
L2110	FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
	KNEE ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, FEMORAL
L2126	FRACTURE CAST ORTHOSIS, THERMOPLASTIC TYPE CASTING
	MATERIAL, CUSTOM-FABRICATED
L2128	KNEE ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, FEMORAL
L2126	FRACTURE CAST ORTHOSIS, CUSTOM-FABRICATED
	KAFO, FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, FEMORAL FRACTURE CAST
L2132	ORTHOSIS, SOFT, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND
	ADJUSTMENT
T 2124	KAFO, FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, FEMORAL FRACTURE CAST
L2134	ORTHOSIS, SEMI-RIGID, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
	KAFO, FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, FEMORAL FRACTURE CAST
L2136	ORTHOSIS, RIGID, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND
L2130	ADJUSTMENT
1.2100	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY FRACTURE ORTHOSIS,
L2180	PLASTIC SHOE INSERT WITH ANKLE JOINTS
L2182	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, DROP



HCPCS	Description
	LOCK KNEE JOINT
L2184	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, LIMITED MOTION KNEE JOINT
L2186	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, ADJUSTABLE MOTION KNEE JOINT, LERMAN TYPE
L2188	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, QUADRILATERAL BRIM
L2190	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, WAIST BELT
L2192	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY FRACTURE ORTHOSIS, HIP JOINT, PELVIC BAND, THIGH FLANGE, AND PELVIC BELT
L2200	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, LIMITED ANKLE MOTION, EACH JOINT
L2210	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, DORSIFLEXION ASSIST (PLANTAR FLEXION RESIST), EACH JOINT
L2220	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, DORSIFLEXION AND PLANTAR FLEXION ASSIST/RESIST, EACH JOINT
L2230	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, SPLIT FLAT CALIPER STIRRUPS AND PLATE ATTACHMENT
L2232	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY ORTHOSIS, ROCKER BOTTOM FOR TOTAL CONTACT ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, FOR CUSTOM FABRICATED ORTHOSIS ONLY
L2240	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, ROUND CALIPER AND PLATE ATTACHMENT
L2250	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, FOOT PLATE, MOLDED TO PATIENT MODEL, STIRRUP ATTACHMENT
L2260	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, REINFORCED SOLID STIRRUP (SCOTT-CRAIG TYPE)
L2265	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, LONG TONGUE STIRRUP
L2270	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, VARUS/VALGUS CORRECTION ('T') STRAP, PADDED/LINED OR MALLEOLUS PAD
L2275	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, VARUS/VALGUS CORRECTION, PLASTIC MODIFICATION, PADDED/LINED
L2280	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, MOLDED INNER BOOT
L2300	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, ABDUCTION BAR (BILATERAL HIP INVOLVEMENT), JOINTED, ADJUSTABLE
L2310 L2320	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, ABDUCTION BAR-STRAIGHT ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, NON-MOLDED LACER, FOR



HCPCS	Description
	CUSTOM FABRICATED ORTHOSIS ONLY
L2330	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, LACER MOLDED TO PATIENT MODEL, FOR CUSTOM FABRICATED ORTHOSIS ONLY
L2335	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, ANTERIOR SWING BAND
L2340	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, PRE-TIBIAL SHELL, MOLDED TO PATIENT MODEL
L2350	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, PROSTHETIC TYPE, (BK) SOCKET, MOLDED TO PATIENT MODEL, (USED FOR 'PTB' 'AFO' ORTHOSES)
L2360	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, EXTENDED STEEL SHANK
L2370	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, PATTEN BOTTOM
L2375	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, TORSION CONTROL, ANKLE JOINT AND HALF SOLID STIRRUP
L2380	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, TORSION CONTROL, STRAIGHT KNEE JOINT, EACH JOINT
L2385	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, STRAIGHT KNEE JOINT, HEAVY DUTY, EACH JOINT
L2387	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, POLYCENTRIC KNEE JOINT, FOR CUSTOM FABRICATED KNEE ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, EACH JOINT
L2390	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, OFFSET KNEE JOINT, EACH JOINT
L2395	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, OFFSET KNEE JOINT, HEAVY DUTY, EACH JOINT
L2397	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY ORTHOSIS, SUSPENSION SLEEVE
L2405	ADDITION TO KNEE JOINT, DROP LOCK, EACH
L2415	ADDITION TO KNEE LOCK WITH INTEGRATED RELEASE MECHANISM (BAIL, CABLE, OR EQUAL), ANY MATERIAL, EACH JOINT
L2425	ADDITION TO KNEE JOINT, DISC OR DIAL LOCK FOR ADJUSTABLE KNEE FLEXION, EACH JOINT
L2430	ADDITION TO KNEE JOINT, RATCHET LOCK FOR ACTIVE AND PROGRESSIVE KNEE EXTENSION, EACH JOINT
L2492	ADDITION TO KNEE JOINT, LIFT LOOP FOR DROP LOCK RING
L2500	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, THIGH/WEIGHT BEARING, GLUTEAL/ ISCHIAL WEIGHT BEARING, RING
L2510	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, THIGH/WEIGHT BEARING,



HCPCS	Description
	QUADRI- LATERAL BRIM, MOLDED TO PATIENT MODEL
L2520	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, THIGH/WEIGHT BEARING,
	QUADRI- LATERAL BRIM, CUSTOM FITTED
T 0.50.5	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, THIGH/WEIGHT BEARING,
L2525	ISCHIAL CONTAINMENT/NARROW M-L BRIM MOLDED TO
	PATIENT MODEL ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, THIGH/WEIGHT BEARING,
L2526	ISCHIAL CONTAINMENT/NARROW M-L BRIM, CUSTOM FITTED
	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, THIGH-WEIGHT BEARING,
L2530	LACER, NON-MOLDED
1.0540	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, THIGH/WEIGHT BEARING,
L2540	LACER, MOLDED TO PATIENT MODEL
L2550	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY, THIGH/WEIGHT BEARING,
L2330	HIGH ROLL CUFF
L2750	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY ORTHOSIS, PLATING
22,00	CHROME OR NICKEL, PER BAR
	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY ORTHOSIS, HIGH STRENGTH,
L2755	LIGHTWEIGHT MATERIAL, ALL HYBRID LAMINATION/PREPREG COMPOSITE, PER SEGMENT, FOR CUSTOM FABRICATED
	ORTHOSIS ONLY
	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY ORTHOSIS, EXTENSION, PER
L2760	EXTENSION, PER BAR (FOR LINEAL ADJUSTMENT FOR GROWTH)
L2768	ORTHOTIC SIDE BAR DISCONNECT DEVICE, PER BAR
1.2700	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY ORTHOSIS, NON-CORROSIVE
L2780	FINISH, PER BAR
L2785	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY ORTHOSIS, DROP LOCK
L2/03	RETAINER, EACH
L2795	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY ORTHOSIS, KNEE CONTROL,
22790	FULL KNEECAP
1 2000	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY ORTHOSIS, KNEE CONTROL,
L2800	KNEE CAP, MEDIAL OR LATERAL PULL, FOR USE WITH CUSTOM FABRICATED ORTHOSIS ONLY
	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY ORTHOSIS, KNEE CONTROL,
L2810	CONDYLAR PAD
	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY ORTHOSIS, SOFT INTERFACE
L2820	FOR MOLDED PLASTIC, BELOW KNEE SECTION
1.0000	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY ORTHOSIS, SOFT INTERFACE
L2830	FOR MOLDED PLASTIC, ABOVE KNEE SECTION



HCPCS	Description
L2840	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY ORTHOSIS, TIBIAL LENGTH SOCK, FRACTURE OR EQUAL, EACH
L2850	ADDITION TO LOWER EXTREMITY ORTHOSIS, FEMORAL LENGTH SOCK, FRACTURE OR EQUAL, EACH
L2999	LOWER EXTREMITY ORTHOSES, NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED
L4002	REPLACEMENT STRAP, ANY ORTHOSIS, INCLUDES ALL COMPONENTS, ANY LENGTH, ANY TYPE
L4010	REPLACE TRILATERAL SOCKET BRIM
L4020	REPLACE QUADRILATERAL SOCKET BRIM, MOLDED TO PATIENT MODEL
L4030	REPLACE QUADRILATERAL SOCKET BRIM, CUSTOM FITTED
L4040	REPLACE MOLDED THIGH LACER, FOR CUSTOM FABRICATED ORTHOSIS ONLY
L4045	REPLACE NON-MOLDED THIGH LACER, FOR CUSTOM FABRICATED ORTHOSIS ONLY
L4050	REPLACE MOLDED CALF LACER, FOR CUSTOM FABRICATED ORTHOSIS ONLY
L4055	REPLACE NON-MOLDED CALF LACER, FOR CUSTOM FABRICATED ORTHOSIS ONLY
L4060	REPLACE HIGH ROLL CUFF
L4070	REPLACE PROXIMAL AND DISTAL UPRIGHT FOR KAFO
L4080	REPLACE METAL BANDS KAFO, PROXIMAL THIGH
L4090	REPLACE METAL BANDS KAFO-AFO, CALF OR DISTAL THIGH
L4100	REPLACE LEATHER CUFF KAFO, PROXIMAL THIGH
L4110	REPLACE LEATHER CUFF KAFO-AFO, CALF OR DISTAL THIGH
L4130	REPLACE PRETIBIAL SHELL
L4205	REPAIR OF ORTHOTIC DEVICE, LABOR COMPONENT, PER 15 MINUTES
L4210	REPAIR OF ORTHOTIC DEVICE, REPAIR OR REPLACE MINOR PARTS
L4350	ANKLE CONTROL ORTHOSIS, STIRRUP STYLE, RIGID, INCLUDES ANY TYPE INTERFACE (E.G., PNEUMATIC, GEL), PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
L4360	WALKING BOOT, PNEUMATIC AND/OR VACUUM, WITH OR WITHOUT JOINTS, WITH OR WITHOUT INTERFACE MATERIAL, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE



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HCPCS	Description				
	WALKING BOOT, PNEUMATIC AND/OR VACUUM, WITH OR WITHOUT JOINTS, WITH OR WITHOUT INTERFACE MATERIAL, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF PNEUMATIC FULL LEG SPLINT, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF WALKING BOOT, NON-PNEUMATIC, WITH OR WITHOUT JOINTS, WITH OR WITHOUT INTERFACE MATERIAL, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE WALKING BOOT, NON-PNEUMATIC, WITH OR WITHOUT JOINTS, WITH OR WITHOUT INTERFACE MATERIAL, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF REPLACEMENT, SOFT INTERFACE MATERIAL, STATIC AFO REPLACE SOFT INTERFACE MATERIAL, FOOT DROP SPLINT STATIC OR DYNAMIC ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, INCLUDING SOFT INTERFACE MATERIAL, ADJUSTABLE FOR FIT, FOR POSITIONING, MAY BE USED FOR MINIMAL AMBULATION, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE STATIC OR DYNAMIC ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, INCLUDING SOFT INTERFACE MATERIAL ADJUSTABLE FOR FIT FOR				
L4361	WITHOUT JOINTS, WITH OR WITHOUT INTERFACE MATERIAL,				
	PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF				
1 4270	PNEUMATIC FULL LEG SPLINT, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-				
L43/0	SHELF				
	WALKING BOOT, NON-PNEUMATIC, WITH OR WITHOUT JOINTS,				
L4386	ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED,				
	OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY				
	AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE				
	WALKING BOOT, NON-PNEUMATIC, WITH OR WITHOUT JOINTS,				
L4387					
	OFF-THE-SHELF				
L4392	REPLACEMENT, SOFT INTERFACE MATERIAL, STATIC AFO				
L4394	REPLACE SOFT INTERFACE MATERIAL, FOOT DROP SPLINT				
	STATIC OR DYNAMIC ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, INCLUDING SOFT				
	INTERFACE MATERIAL, ADJUSTABLE FOR FIT, FOR				
I 4206	POSITIONING, MAY BE USED FOR MINIMAL AMBULATION,				
L4390					
	SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE				
	STATIC OR DYNAMIC ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, INCLUDING SOFT				
L4397					
LTJ//					
	PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF				
L4398	FOOT DROP SPLINT, RECUMBENT POSITIONING DEVICE,				
L+370	PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF				
	ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, WALKING BOOT TYPE, VARUS/VALGUS				
	CORRECTION, ROCKER BOTTOM, ANTERIOR TIBIAL SHELL,				
L4631	SOFT INTERFACE, CUSTOM ARCH SUPPORT, PLASTIC OR OTHER				
	MATERIAL, INCLUDES STRAPS AND CLOSURES, CUSTOM				
	FABRICATED				

ICD-10 Codes that Support Medical Necessity

Group 1 Paragraph: The presence of an ICD-10 code listed in this section is not sufficient by itself to assure coverage. Refer to the section on "Coverage Indications,



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Limitations and/or Medical Necessity" for other coverage criteria and payment information.

For HCPCS codes L4392, L4396 and L4397:

Group 1 Codes:

ICD-10 Code	Description
M24.571	Contracture, right ankle
M24.572	Contracture, left ankle
M24.574	Contracture, right foot
M24.575	Contracture, left foot
M72.2	Plantar fascial fibromatosis

Group 2 Paragraph: For HCPCS code L4631:

Group 2 Codes:

ICD-10 Code	Description
A52.16	Charcot's arthropathy (tabetic)
E08.610	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with diabetic neuropathic arthropathy
E09.610	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with diabetic neuropathic arthropathy
E10.610	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with diabetic neuropathic arthropathy
E11.610	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic neuropathic arthropathy
M14.671	Charcot's joint, right ankle and foot
M14.672	Charcot's joint, left ankle and foot

Important Note:

Northwood's Medical Policies are developed to assist Northwood in administering plan benefits and determining whether a particular DMEPOS product or service is reasonable and necessary. Equipment that is used primarily and customarily for a non-medical purpose is not considered durable medical equipment.

Coverage determinations are made on a case-by-case basis and are subject to all of the terms, conditions, limitations, and exclusions of the member's contract including medical necessity requirements.



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The conclusion that a DMEPOS product or service is reasonable and necessary does not constitute coverage. The member's contract defines which DMEPOS product or service is covered, excluded or limited. The policies provide for clearly written, reasonable and current criteria that have been approved by Northwood's Medical Director.

The clinical criteria and medical policies provide guidelines for determining the medical necessity for specific DMEPOS products or services. In all cases, final benefit determinations are based on the applicable contract language. To the extent there are any conflicts between medical policy guidelines and applicable contract language, the contract language prevails. Medical policy is not intended to override the policy that defines the member's benefits, nor is it intended to dictate to providers how to direct care. Northwood Medical policies shall not be interpreted to limit the benefits afforded to Medicare or Medicaid members by law and regulation and Northwood will use the applicable state requirements to determine required quantity limit guidelines.

Northwood's policies do not constitute medical advice. Northwood does not provide or recommend treatment to members. Members should consult with their treating practitioner in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

Northwood follows all CMS National Coverage Determinations (NCD) and Local Coverage Determinations (LCD), as applicable.

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Change/Authorization History

Revision Number	Date	Description of Change	Prepared / Reviewed by	Approved by	Review Date	Effective Date
A	11-20-06	Initial Release	Rosanne Brugnoni	Ken Fasse	n/a	
01	12-2008	Added A9283 to the policy as a non covered benefit	Susan Glomb	Ken Fasse		
02	03-31-09	Deleted L1901 from code range of AFO-KAFO used with ambulation. Revised: Code L4360 descriptor Deleted: Code L2860	Susan Glomb	Ken Fasse		
03	06-01-09	Deleted Code L2035 from the custom-fabricated orthoses list Deleted Codes K0628 and K0629 from the list used in diabetic foot problems management Added Codes A5512 and A5513 to the list used in diabetic foot problems management Added Code L4392 to list of codes rejected as incorrect coding when billed with initial issue of a base orthosis.	Susan Glomb	Ken Fasse		
04	06-01-09	Added KX modifier. Deleted L2770	Susan Glomb	Ken Fasse		
05	12-04-09	Non-medical necessity coverage and payment rules: Added information on code A9283. Coding guidelines: Revised: Instructions for	Susan Glomb	Ken Fasse		



	coding A9283, L2770, Instructions for coding concentric adjustable torsion joints. Instructions for RT/LT modifiers.				
	Annual review. No additional changes.	Susan Glomb	Ken Fasse	12-04-09	
01-05-10	Added code: A4466 and description as non-covered. Changed narrative for L4396.	Susan Glomb	Ken Fasse		
	Annual Review – no changes	Susan Glomb	Ken Fasse	11-19-10	
1-05-11	Added: preamble language. Revised: Clarified non coverage statements for L4392, L4394, L4396 and L4398. Coding Guidelines: Added: Definition of L4631. Revised: Clarified proper coding instructions based on brace use.	Susan Glomb	Ken Fasse		
07-19-11	Added Important Notes to the policy. Changed areas to "not reasonable and necessary versus not medically necessary".	Susan Glomb	Dr. Almasri		
11-7-11	Annual Review. Added References to Policy.	Susan Glomb	Dr. Almasri		
04-03-12	Added reference to NH Medicaid	Susan Glomb	Dr. Almasri		
11-26-12	Annual review – Deleted limitation pertaining to A9283 since it is referenced in the coding requirements section. Added statement that A9283 is a non-covered code.	Susan Glomb	Dr. Almasri	November 2012	
	1-05-11 07-19-11 11-7-11 04-03-12	Instructions for coding concentric adjustable torsion joints. Instructions for RT/LT modifiers. Annual review. No additional changes. Added code: A4466 and description as non-covered. Changed narrative for L4396. Annual Review – no changes Added: preamble language. Revised: Clarified non coverage statements for L4392, L4394, L4396 and L4398. Coding Guidelines: Added: Definition of L4631. Revised: Clarified proper coding instructions based on brace use. Added Important Notes to the policy. Changed areas to "not reasonable and necessary versus not medically necessary". Annual Review. Added References to Policy. Added reference to NH Medicaid Annual review – Deleted limitation pertaining to A9283 since it is referenced in the coding requirements section. Added statement that A9283 is a non-covered	Instructions for coding concentric adjustable torsion joints. Instructions for RT/LT modifiers. Annual review. No additional changes. Added code: A4466 and description as non-covered. Changed narrative for L4396. Annual Review – no changes Added: preamble language. Revised: Clarified non coverage statements for L4392, L4394, L4396 and L4398. Coding Guidelines: Added: Definition of L4631. Revised: Clarified proper coding instructions based on brace use. Added Important Notes to the policy. Changed areas to "not reasonable and necessary versus not medically necessary". 11-7-11 Annual Review. Added References to Policy. Added reference to NH Medicaid Annual review – Deleted limitation pertaining to A9283 since it is referenced in the coding requirements section. Added statement that A9283 is a non-covered	Instructions for coding concentric adjustable torsion joints. Instructions for RT/LT modifiers. Annual review. No additional changes. Added code: A4466 and description as noncovered. Changed narrative for L4396. Annual Review – no changes Added: preamble language. Revised: Clarified non coverage statements for L4392. L4394, L4396 and L4398. Coding Guidelines: Added: Definition of L4631. Revised: Clarified proper coding instructions based on brace use. Added Important Notes to the policy. Changed areas to "not reasonable and necessary versus not medically necessary". Annual Review. Added References to Policy. Added reference to NH Medicaid Annual review — Deleted limitation pertaining to A9283 since it is referenced in the coding requirements section. Added statement that A9283 is a non-covered	Instructions for coding concentric adjustable torsion joints. Instructions for RT/LT modifiers. Annual review. No additional changes. Added code: A4466 and description as non-covered. Changed narrative for L4396. Annual Review – no changes Added: preamble language. Revised: Clarified non coverage statements for L4392, L4394, L4396 and L4398. Coding Guidelines: Added: Definition of L4631. Revised: Clarified proper coding instructions based on brace use. Added Important Notes to the policy. Changed areas to "not reasonable and necessary versus not medically necessary". 11-7-11 Annual Review. Added References to Policy. 4 Added reference to NH Medicaid Annual review – Deleted limitation pertaining to A9283 since it is referenced in the coding requirements section. Added statement that A9283 is a non-covered



14	11-29-12	Changed narrative for L2005 to: Knee ankle foot orthosis, any material single or double upright, stance control, automatic lock and swing release, any type activation, including ankle joint, any type, custom fabrication.	Susan Glomb	Dr. Almasri	Nov 12	
15	06-18-13	Added criteria and reference for microprocessor controlled KAFOs.	Susan Glomb	Dr. Almasri		
16	12-18-13	Annual review. Deleted height definition for codes L1900, L1910-L1990	Susan Glomb	Dr. Almasri	Dec 2012	
17	12-18-13	Annual Review. Descriptions/revised coding guidelines for Ankle Orthoses. L2340, L2340, L1906 & L1960.	Susan Glomb	Dr. Almasri	Dec2013	
18	12-2-14	Annual Review. Added information for L4360, L4361, L4386 and L4387 Walking boots/criteria. Also, added L4397 Static or dynamic ankle foot orthosis, including soft interface material, adjustable for fit, for positioning, may be used for minimal ambulation, prefabricated, off-the-shelf.	Susan Glomb	Dr. B. Almasri		
19	12-14-15	Annual Review. Updated policy with Medicare criteria. Updated with ICD-10 codes. References updated.	Susan Glomb	Dr. B. Almasri		
20	12-08-16	Annual Review. No Changes.	Lisa Wojno	Dr. B. Almasri	December 2016	
21	12-8-17	Annual review. Updated policy with Medicare	Carol Dimech	Dr. C. Lerchin	December 2017	



		criteria. Removed reference to "counterforce" in policy description. Deleted A4466. Added A4467 Belt, Strap, Sleeve, Garment or Covering, Any Type. Added A9285 Inversion/Eversion Correction Device. Deleted: ICD-10 Diagnosis M14.661, M14.662, M14.669 for L4631; diagnosis not pertinent to this orthosis.				
22	12-5-18	Annual review. Added: AFOs are considered medically necessary to include minimally ambulatory persons who meet criteria for static or dynamic positioning AFO. Medicare references updated. Walking boot add-on bundling information. Added code L4361 to AFO list.	Carol Dimech	Dr. C. Lerchin	December 2018	
23	9-6-19	Removed reference to "Medicare" in L4398 not reasonable and necessary statement page 2, paragraph 3.	Carol Dimech	Dr. C. Lerchin	September 2019	
24	10-22-19	Added: Socks L2840, L2850 used with orthoses noncovered.	Carol Dimech	Dr. C. Lerchin	10-22-19	10-22-19
25	12-9-19	Annual review. Added custom fit requirements and RT and LT modifier instructions.	Carol Dimech	Dr. C. Lerchin	12-9-19	12-9-19
26	12-09-20	Annual Review. Updated 'physician' to 'practitioner'. Added HCPCS L2006. Removed non-specified ICD-10	Lisa Wojno	Dr. C. Lerchin	December 2020	



		codes M24.573 and M24.576 from Group 1 and removed non-specified ICD-10 M14.679 from Group 2. Added ICD-10 codes E08.610, E09.610, E10.610, and E11.610 to Group 2 following reference.				December 2020
27	12-10-21	Annual Review. Added NCD/LCD verbiage to "Important Note". Added Prefabricated description to policy.	Carol Dimech/Susan Glomb	Dr. C. Lerchin	December 10, 2021	
28	12-2-22	Annual review. No changes.	Lisa Wojno	Dr. C. Lerchin	December 2, 2022	December 2022
29	12-6-23	Annual review. No changes.	Carol Dimech	Dr. C. Lerchin	December 6, 2023	December 2023
30	12-2-24	Annual review. Updated references. Per CMS guidelines, revised coverage criteria for custom orthosis to state "to prevent tissue injury"; added custom technology descriptor.	Carol Dimech	Dr. C. Lerchin	12-2-24	12-2-24
31	12-9- 2025	Annual Review. Added: Concentric adjustable torsion style mechanisms used for the treatment of contractures, regardless of any co-existing condition(s), are coded as E1810, E1813, E1814, E1815, E1822, and/or E1823 and are covered under the Durable Medical Equipment benefit. Added: HCPCS codes L1933 and L1952 to the HCPCS codes that describe ankle-foot orthoses (AFOs) that are	Susan Kazmierski	Dr. C. Lerchin	12-9-2025	12-9-2025



covered for ambulatory beneficiaries with weakness or deformity of the foot and ankle who meet specified criteria HCPCS CODES:		
Revised: Long descriptions of HCPCS		
codes L1932, L1951, and L1971		