



Documentation Guide for Wheelchairs

Step 1: Diagnosis and Symptoms

The medical record must document that the patient has a mobility limitation that significantly impairs his/her ability to participate in one or more MRADLs (i.e. toileting, feeding, bathing, dressing, grooming etc.)

Step 2: Mobility Assessment

A mobility assessment must be included in the exam notes documenting ALL of the following:

- The mobility limitation cannot be sufficiently resolved by the use of an appropriately fitted cane or walker.
- The use of a wheelchair will significantly improve the beneficiary's ability to participate in MRADLs in the home.
- The beneficiary is willing to use the manual wheelchair that is provided in the home.
- The patient has sufficient upper extremity function to safely propel the manual wheelchair that is provided in the home during a typical day OR the beneficiary has a caregiver who is available, willing, and able to provide assistance with the wheelchair.
- Elevating leg rests are covered if the patient requires a reclining wheelchair, if the patient cannot achieve 90-degree flexion at the knee or if the leg must be elevated due to significant edema.

For **lightweight wheelchair** orders, the exam notes must document the following:

- The patient is unable to use a standard wheelchair, AND
- The patient is able and willing to use a lightweight wheelchair.