

## Coverage Criteria for Manual Wheelchairs

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To be eligible for reimbursement by the patient's insurance, the following requirements must be met and clearly documented in the **Office Visit Notes**:

### Essential Criteria

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1. The patient has a significant mobility limitation that prevents or greatly impairs completion of at least one Mobility-related Activities of Daily Living (e.g., toileting, feeding, dressing, grooming, bathing), increases risk during these activities, or causes them to take unreasonably long.
2. The limitation cannot be adequately addressed with a cane or walker.
3. The home allows safe and accessible use of a manual wheelchair throughout.
4. A manual wheelchair will substantially improve Mobility-related Activities of Daily Living participation and be used regularly at home.
5. The patient is willing to use the manual wheelchair at home.
6. In addition to meeting all criteria above, the patient must also satisfy at least one of the following criteria:
  - a. The patient must have adequate upper extremity function and mental capabilities to safely self-propel a manual wheelchair at home, considering limitations like decreased strength, endurance, range of motion, coordination, pain, or limb loss.
  - b. A caregiver is available, willing, and able to assist with the wheelchair.

### Optional Criteria

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For any of the options to be reimbursed by the patient's insurance, the requirements must be met and clearly documented in the **Office Visit Notes**:

**Elevating Leg Rests:** The patient cannot flex their knee to 90 degrees due to musculoskeletal issues or a cast/brace, has significant lower extremity edema needing elevation.

**Lightweight Wheelchair:** The patient is unable to self-propel a standard wheelchair at home but can use a lightweight model. Note: Lightweight wheelchairs are typically 15lbs lighter than standard wheelchairs.

**Spasticity:** Patients with severe spasticity qualify for a heavy-duty wheelchair.

Note: Patients over 250 lbs. will receive a Heavy-Duty Wheelchair; those over 300 lbs. will receive an Extra Heavy-Duty model.

