

“Will Medicare Pay for my Seat Lift?”

Miller's Standard Practice Billing Seat Lifts to Medicare

We will bill your seat lift non-assigned if requested. This means:

- 1) We must have a physician's written order prior to delivery.
- 2) You are responsible for payment in full upon or before delivery.
- 3) Miller's will provide you with an Advance Beneficiary Notice (ABN) informing you if/why we think Medicare will/will not pay for your seat lift mechanism. You must sign the ABN.
- 4) Miller's will submit Medicare's Certificate of Medical Necessity to your physician.
- 5) Once CMN has been returned, we will submit a **NON-ASSIGNED** claim to Medicare.
- 6) **IF** Medicare determines that the seat lift is medically necessary, they will reimburse you directly. Note that from the time you purchase your chair until the time Medicare notifies you of their decision will be approximately 2-3 months.
- 7) The amount Medicare may reimburse you is equal to 80% of their allowed amount for the seat lift mechanism **ONLY**. Medicare rates vary based on zip code. The 2018 Medicare rate for a seat lift mechanism is approximately \$264 (80%=\$211). Please note that if Medicare does pay 80%, your secondary insurance may cover the other 20%.
- 8) Miller's does not have the competitive bid contract for seat lift chairs in the Cleveland, Akron, and Youngstown areas. There is no reimbursement available from Medicare if you reside in these bid zip codes. Non-assigned billing will always be denied. For possible Medicare coverage, you must use a bid contracted supplier.
- 9) If Medicare determines the seat lift mechanism is not medically necessary, they will send you a letter notifying you that your claim has been denied.



We strongly suggest you make a purchasing decision based on the presumption that Medicare will **not** reimburse you. Base your purchasing decision on what you are comfortable spending now.

Medicare's coverage policy is very specific and not everyone qualifies for a seat lift. **Please do not assume that just because your physician prescribed a seat lift that Medicare will cover it.**

CANTON

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2023 Romig Road
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(330) 753-8600 or (800) 589-2630
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5410 Warner Road
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623 North Meridian Road
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Advancing Care, Enhancing Mobility

(The following is Medicare's current policy for coverage of seat lifts as of January 2018)

Coverage and Payment Rules:

For any item to be covered by Medicare, it must 1) be eligible for a defined Medicare benefit category, 2) be reasonable and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of illness or injury or to improve the functioning of a malformed body member, and 3) meet all other applicable Medicare statutory and regulatory requirements. For the items addressed in this medical policy, the criteria for "reasonable and necessary" are defined by the following indications and limitations of coverage and/or medical necessity.

For an item addressed in this policy to be covered by Medicare, a written, signed, and dated order must be received by the supplier prior to delivery of the item. If the supplier delivers the item prior to receipt of a written order, it will be denied as non-covered. If the written order is not obtained prior to delivery, payment will not be made for that item even if a written order is subsequently obtained.

A seat lift mechanism is covered if all of the following criteria are met:

- 1) The patient must have seen their physician within the past 6 months, and the physician notes must document the need for the seat lift mechanism.*
- 2) The patient must have severe arthritis of the hip or knee or have a severe neuromuscular disease.*
- 3) The seat lift mechanism must be a part of the physician's course of treatment and be prescribed to effect improvement, or arrest or retard deterioration in the patient's condition.*
- 3) The patient must be completely incapable of standing up from a regular armchair or any chair in their home. (The fact that a patient has difficulty or is even incapable of getting up from a chair, particularly a low chair, is not sufficient justification for a seat lift mechanism. Almost all patients who are capable of ambulating can get out of an ordinary chair if the seat height is appropriate and the chair has arms.)*
- 4) Once standing, the patient must have the ability to ambulate.*

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