

**Policy References:** [Local Coverage Determination Canes and Crutches \(L33733\)](#) and [Policy Article \(A52459\)](#)

**Documentation References:** [Standard Documentation Requirements Policy Article \(PA\) A55426](#)

The treating clinician must complete the following items:

- [Standard Written Order \(SWO\)](#)
- Medical record documentation requirements (see below)

### **Medical Documentation**

Canes and crutches are covered if all of the following criteria are met:

- The beneficiary has a mobility limitation that significantly impairs his/her ability to participate in one or more mobility-related activities of daily living (MRADL) such as toileting, feeding or dressing in the home. The limitation may prevent the beneficiary from accomplishing the MRADL entirely, or places the beneficiary at heightened risk of morbidity or mortality due to the attempts to perform an MRADL, or prevents the beneficiary from completing the MRADL within a reasonable time frame
- The beneficiary is able to safely use the cane or crutch
- The functional mobility deficit can be sufficiently resolved by use of a cane or crutch

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