

CLINICIAN CHECKLIST FOR CANES AND CRUTCHES

Policy References:

- [Local Coverage Determination \(LCD\) \(L33733\)](#)
- [Policy Article \(A52459\)](#)

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

The treating clinician must complete the following items:

[Standard Written Order \(SWO\)](#)

Medical records as noted 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**
 - Place the beneficiary at heightened risk of morbidity or mortality due to the attempts to perform an MRADL, **or**
 - Prevent the beneficiary from completing the MRADL within a reasonable time frame;
- and**

The beneficiary is able to safely use the cane or crutch; **and**

The functional mobility deficit can be sufficiently resolved by use of a cane or crutch.