Policy References: Local Coverage Determination Respiratory Assist Device (L33800) and Policy Article (A52512)

Documentation References: Standard Documentation Requirements Policy Article (PA) A55426

The treating clinician must complete the following items:

- Conduct and document a Face-to-Face Evaluation (FTF)
- Complete a 5 Element Order (5EO)
- Sign and date a Detailed Written Order (DWO)
- Medical record documentation requirements (see below)

For a Respiratory Assist Device (RAD) with or without a backup rate feature to be covered for restrictive thoracic disorder, the treating clinician must fully document in the patient's medical record symptoms characteristic of sleep-associated hypoventilation, such as daytime hypersomnolence, excessive fatigue, morning headache, cognitive dysfunction, dyspnea, etc.

Medical Documentation

A bi-level device without backup rate is covered when all of the following criteria are met.

- There is documentation in the beneficiary’s medical record of a neuromuscular disease (for example, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis) or a severe thoracic cage abnormality (for example, post-thoracoplasty for TB).
- One of the following:
  - An arterial blood gas PaCO2, done while awake and breathing the beneficiary’s prescribed FIO2 is greater than or equal to 45 mm Hg, or
  - Sleep oximetry demonstrates oxygen saturation less than or equal to 88% for greater than or equal to 5 minutes of nocturnal recording time (minimum recording time of 2 hours), done while breathing the beneficiary’s prescribed recommended FIO2, or
  - Maximal inspiratory pressure is less than 60 cm H20, or
  - Forced vital capacity is less than 50% predicted.

- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease does not contribute significantly to the beneficiary's pulmonary limitation.

- Medical record requirements after the first 90-days of RAD therapy.

The content of this document was prepared as an educational tool and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. Use of this document is not intended to take the place of either written law or regulations. Suppliers are reminded to review the Local Coverage Determination and Policy Article for specific documentation guidelines.