

# Local Coverage Determination (LCD): Cervical Traction Devices (L33823)

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## Contractor Information

Contractor Name	Contract Type	Contract Number	Jurisdiction	State(s)
<a href="#">CGS Administrators, LLC</a>	DME MAC	17013 -	DME MAC J-B	Illinois Indiana Kentucky Michigan Minnesota Ohio Wisconsin Alabama Arkansas Colorado Florida Georgia Louisiana Mississippi North Carolina New Mexico Oklahoma Puerto Rico South Carolina Tennessee Texas Virginia Virgin Islands West Virginia
<a href="#">CGS Administrators, LLC</a>	DME MAC	18003 -	DME MAC J-C	Connecticut District of Columbia Delaware Massachusetts Maryland Maine New Hampshire New Jersey New York - Entire State Pennsylvania Rhode Island Vermont Alaska American Samoa Arizona California - Entire State Guam Hawaii Iowa Idaho
<a href="#">Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC</a>	DME MAC	16013 -	DME MAC J-A	Kansas Missouri - Entire State Montana North Dakota Nebraska Nevada Oregon South Dakota
<a href="#">Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC</a>	DME MAC	19003 -	DME MAC J-D	

## LCD Information

### Document Information

LCD ID  
L33823Original Effective Date  
For services performed on or after 10/01/2015

Original ICD-9 LCD ID

[L15300](#)  
[L15905](#)  
[L27233](#)  
[L15844](#)Revision Effective Date  
For services performed on or after 01/01/2017Revision Ending Date  
N/ALCD Title  
Cervical Traction DevicesRetirement Date  
N/AProposed LCD in Comment Period  
N/ANotice Period Start Date  
N/ASource Proposed LCD  
N/ANotice Period End Date  
N/A

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Coverage Guidance

**Coverage Indications, Limitations, and/or Medical Necessity**

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.

The purpose of a Local Coverage Determination (LCD) is to provide information regarding "reasonable and necessary" criteria based on Social Security Act § 1862(a)(1)(A) provisions.

In addition to the "reasonable and necessary" criteria contained in this LCD there are other payment rules, which are discussed in the following documents, that must also be met prior to Medicare reimbursement:

- The LCD-related Standard Documentation Requirements Article, located at the bottom of this policy under the Related Local Coverage Documents section.
- The LCD-related Policy Article, located at the bottom of this policy under the Related Local Coverage Documents section.
- Refer to the Supplier Manual for additional information on documentation requirements.
- Refer to the DME MAC web sites for additional bulletin articles and other publications related to this LCD.

For the items addressed in this LCD, the "reasonable and necessary" criteria, based on Social Security Act § 1862(a)(1)(A) provisions, are defined by the following coverage indications, limitations and/or medical necessity.

Cervical traction devices (E0840-E0855 and E0860) are covered only if both of the following criteria are met:

1. The beneficiary has a musculoskeletal or neurologic impairment requiring traction equipment; and
2. The appropriate use of a home cervical traction device has been demonstrated to the beneficiary and the beneficiary tolerated the selected device.

If criteria 1 and 2 are not met, cervical traction will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

Cervical traction applied via attachment to a headboard (E0840) or a free-standing frame (E0850) has no proven clinical advantage compared to cervical traction applied via an over-the-door mechanism (E0860). If an E0840 or E0850 is ordered, it will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

Cervical traction devices described by code E0849 or E0855 are covered only when criteria 1 and 2 above and either criterion A, B or C below has been met:

- A. The beneficiary has a diagnosis of temporomandibular joint (TMJ) dysfunction; and has received treatment for the TMJ condition; or,
- B. The beneficiary has distortion of the lower jaw or neck anatomy (e.g., radical neck dissection) such that a chin halter is unable to be utilized; or,
- C. The treating physician orders and/or documents the medical necessity for greater than 20 pounds of cervical traction in the home setting.

If the criteria for cervical traction are met but the additional criteria for E0849 or E0855 are not met, they will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

E0856 describes a cervical traction device that can be used with ambulation. Therefore, it will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

GENERAL

A Detailed Written Order (DWO) (if applicable) must be received by the supplier before a claim is submitted. If the supplier bills for an item addressed in this policy without first receiving a completed DWO, the claim shall be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

For Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies (DMEPOS) base items that require a Written Order Prior to Delivery (WOPD), the supplier must also obtain a DWO before submitting a claim for any associated options, accessories, and/or supplies that are separately billed. In this scenario, if the supplier bills for associated options, accessories, and/or supplies without first receiving a completed DWO, the claim shall be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

A WOPD (if applicable) must be received by the supplier before a DMEPOS item is delivered to a beneficiary. If a supplier delivers a DMEPOS item without first receiving a completed WOPD, the claim shall be statutorily denied. Refer to the LCD-related Policy Article, located at the bottom of this policy under the Related Local Coverage Documents section.

An item/service is correctly coded when it meets all the coding guidelines listed in CMS HCPCS guidelines, LCDs, LCD-related Policy Articles, or DME MAC articles. Claims that do not meet coding guidelines shall be denied as not reasonable and necessary/incorrectly coded.

Proof of delivery (POD) is a Supplier Standard and DMEPOS suppliers are required to maintain POD documentation in their files. Proof of delivery documentation must be made available to the Medicare contractor upon request. All services that do not have appropriate proof of delivery from the supplier shall be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

### **Summary of Evidence**

N/A

### **Analysis of Evidence (Rationale for Determination)**

N/A

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## **Coding Information**

Bill Type Codes:

Contractors may specify Bill Types to help providers identify those Bill Types typically used to report this service. Absence of a Bill Type does not guarantee that the policy does not apply to that Bill Type. Complete absence of all Bill Types indicates that coverage is not influenced by Bill Type and the policy should be assumed to apply equally to all claims.

N/A

Revenue Codes:

Contractors may specify Revenue Codes to help providers identify those Revenue Codes typically used to report this service. In most instances Revenue Codes are purely advisory. Unless specified in the policy, services reported under other Revenue Codes are equally subject to this coverage determination. Complete absence of all Revenue Codes indicates that coverage is not influenced by Revenue Code and the policy should be assumed to apply equally to all Revenue Codes.

N/A

CPT/HCPCS Codes

**Group 1 Paragraph:** The appearance of a code in this section does not necessarily indicate coverage.

**HCPCS MODIFIERS:**

EY - No physician or other health care provider order for this item or service  
GA - Waiver of liability statement issued as required by payer policy, individual case  
GZ - Item or service expected to be denied as not reasonable and necessary  
KX - Requirements specified in the medical policy have been met

## HCPCS CODES:

### Group 1 Codes:

E0840 TRACTION FRAME, ATTACHED TO HEADBOARD, CERVICAL TRACTION  
E0849 TRACTION EQUIPMENT, CERVICAL, FREE-STANDING STAND/FRAME, PNEUMATIC, APPLYING TRACTION FORCE TO OTHER THAN MANDIBLE  
E0850 TRACTION STAND, FREE STANDING, CERVICAL TRACTION  
E0855 CERVICAL TRACTION EQUIPMENT NOT REQUIRING ADDITIONAL STAND OR FRAME  
E0856 CERVICAL TRACTION DEVICE, WITH INFLATABLE AIR BLADDER(S)  
E0860 TRACTION EQUIPMENT, OVERDOOR, CERVICAL

ICD-10 Codes that Support Medical Necessity

**Group 1 Paragraph:** Not specified

**Group 1 Codes:** N/A

ICD-10 Codes that DO NOT Support Medical Necessity

**Group 1 Paragraph:** Not specified

**Group 1 Codes:** N/A

ICD-10 Additional Information [Back to Top](#)

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## General Information

Associated Information

### DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Section 1833(e) of the Social Security Act precludes payment to any provider of services unless "there has been furnished such information as may be necessary in order to determine the amounts due such provider." It is expected that the beneficiary's medical records will reflect the need for the care provided. The beneficiary's medical records include the treating practitioner's office records, hospital records, nursing home records, home health agency records, records from other healthcare professionals and test reports. This documentation must be available upon request.

### GENERAL DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to justify payment for DMEPOS items, suppliers must meet the following requirements:

- Prescription (orders)
- Medical Record Information (including continued need/use if applicable)
- Correct Coding
- Proof of Delivery

Refer to the LCD-related Standard Documentation Requirements article, located at the bottom of this policy under the Related Local Coverage Documents section for additional information regarding these requirements.

Refer to the Supplier Manual for additional information on documentation requirements.

Refer to the DME MAC web sites for additional bulletin articles and other publications related to this LCD.

## POLICY SPECIFIC DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Items covered in this LCD have additional policy-specific requirements that must be met prior to Medicare reimbursement.

Refer to the LCD-related Policy article, located at the bottom of this policy under the Related Local Coverage Documents section for additional information.

MISCELLANEOUS

APPENDICES

UTILIZATION GUIDELINES

Refer to Coverage Indications, Limitations and/or Medical Necessity

Sources of Information

N/A

Bibliography

N/A

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## Revision History Information

Revision History Date	Revision History Number	Revision History Explanation	Reason(s) for Change
		No changes have been made to this LCD	
01/01/2017	R5	<i>04/05/2018: At this time 21st Century Cures Act will apply to new and revised LCDs that restrict coverage which requires comment and notice. This revision is not a restriction to the coverage determination; and, therefore not all the fields included on the LCD are applicable as noted in this policy.</i> <b>Revision Effective Date: 01/01/2017</b> COVERAGE INDICATIONS, INDICATIONS, LIMITATIONS AND/OR MEDICAL NECESSITY: Removed: Standard Documentation Language Added: New reference language and directions to Standard Documentation Requirements Added: General Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Other</li></ul>
01/01/2017	R4	DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS: Removed: Standard Documentation Language Added: General Documentation Requirements Added: New reference language and directions to Standard Documentation Requirements POLICY SPECIFIC DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS: Removed: Standard Documentation Language Added: Direction to Standard Documentation Requirements Removed: Information under Miscellaneous and Appendices RELATED LOCAL COVERAGE DOCUMENTS: Added: LCD-related Standard Documentation Requirements article	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provider Education/Guidance</li></ul>

Revision History Date	Revision History Number	Revision History Explanation	Reason(s) for Change
07/01/2016	R3	<p><b>Revision Effective Date: 07/01/2016</b>            COVERAGE INDICATIONS, LIMITATIONS AND/OR MEDICAL NECESSITY:            Revised: Standard Documentation language - ACA order requirements - Effective 04/28/16            DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS:            Revised: Standard documentation language for orders, added New order requirements, and Correct coding instructions; revised Proof of delivery and ACA Face to face instructions - Effective 04/28/16            Removed: Refill requirements section</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provider Education/Guidance</li> </ul>
07/01/2016	R2	<p>Effective July 1, 2016 oversight for DME MAC LCDs is the responsibility of CGS Administrators, LLC 18003 and 17013 and Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC 19003 and 16013. No other changes have been made to the LCDs.</p> <p><b>Revision Effective Date: 10/01/2015</b>            COVERAGE INDICATIONS, LIMITATIONS AND/OR MEDICAL NECESSITY:            Added: Standard language regarding Medicare coverage            HCPCS CODING:            Revised: HCPCS Narrative of E0856            DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS:            Added: Items provided on a periodic basis requirements to DWO            Revised: Standard language to add who can enter date of delivery date on the POD            Added: Instructions for Equipment Retained from a Prior Payer            Revised: HCPCS E0856 Narrative in ACA table            Added: Repair/Replacement section</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change in Assigned States or Affiliated Contract Numbers</li> </ul>
10/01/2015	R1	<p>Added: Items provided on a periodic basis requirements to DWO            Revised: Standard language to add who can enter date of delivery date on the POD            Added: Instructions for Equipment Retained from a Prior Payer            Revised: HCPCS E0856 Narrative in ACA table            Added: Repair/Replacement section</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provider Education/Guidance</li> <li>Revisions Due To CPT/HCPCS Code Changes</li> </ul>

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## Associated Documents

Attachments N/A

Related Local Coverage Documents Article(s) [A52476 - Cervical Traction Devices - Policy Article A55426 - Standard Documentation Requirements for All Claims Submitted to DME MACs](#)

Related National Coverage Documents N/A

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## Keywords

N/A Read the [LCD Disclaimer](#) [Back to Top](#)

**END OF LOCAL COVERAGE DETERMINATION**

Per the Code of Federal Regulations, 42 C.F.R § 426. 325, only those portions of the currently effective Local Coverage Determination (LCD) that are based on section 1862(a)(1)(A) of the Social Security Act, may be challenged through an acceptable complaint as described in 42 C.F.R § 426.400. Also, per 42 C.F.R § 426.325 items that are not reviewable, and therefore cannot be challenged, include the Policy Article. Please note the distinction of the documents when reviewing the materials.

# Local Coverage Article: Cervical Traction Devices - Policy Article (A52476)

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## Contractor Information

Contractor Name	Contract Type	Contract Number	Jurisdiction	State(s)
<a href="#">CGS Administrators, LLC</a>	DME MAC	17013 -	DME MAC J-B	Illinois Indiana Kentucky Michigan Minnesota Ohio Wisconsin Alabama Arkansas Colorado Florida Georgia Louisiana Mississippi North Carolina New Mexico Oklahoma Puerto Rico South Carolina Tennessee Texas Virginia Virgin Islands West Virginia Connecticut District of Columbia Delaware Massachusetts Maryland Maine New Hampshire New Jersey New York - Entire State Pennsylvania Rhode Island Vermont Alaska American Samoa Arizona California - Entire State Guam Hawaii Iowa Idaho Kansas Missouri - Entire State Montana North Dakota Nebraska Nevada Oregon South Dakota
<a href="#">CGS Administrators, LLC</a>	DME MAC	18003 -	DME MAC J-C	
<a href="#">Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC</a>	DME MAC	16013 -	DME MAC J-A	
<a href="#">Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC</a>	DME MAC	19003 -	DME MAC J-D	

## Article Information

### General Information

**Article ID**

A52476

**Original Article Effective Date**

10/01/2015

Original ICD-9 Article ID

[A16851](#)[A18074](#)[A47014](#)[A17919](#)**Revision Effective Date**

01/01/2017

**Revision Ending Date**

N/A

**Article Title**

Cervical Traction Devices - Policy Article

**Retirement Date**

N/A

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### Article Guidance

**Article Text:****NON-MEDICAL NECESSITY 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. Information provided in this policy article relates to determinations other than those based on Social Security Act §1862(a)(1)(A) provisions (i.e. "reasonable and necessary").

Cervical traction devices are covered under the Durable Medical Equipment benefit (Social Security Act §1861(s)(6)). In order for a beneficiary's DME to be eligible for reimbursement, the reasonable and necessary (R&N) requirements set out in the related Local Coverage Determination must be met. In addition, there are specific statutory payment policy requirements, discussed below, that also must be met.

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIC DMEPOS ITEMS PURSUANT TO 42 CFR 410.38(g)

42 CFR 410.38(g) requires a face-to-face evaluation and a specific written order prior to delivery for specified HCPCS codes. CMS provides a list of the specified codes, which is periodically updated, located [here](#).

Claims for the specified items subject to 42 CFR 410.38(g) that do not meet the requirements specified in the LCD-related Standard Documentation Requirements Article will be denied as statutorily noncovered – failed to meet statutory requirements.

If the supplier delivers the item prior to receipt of a written order, it will be denied as statutorily noncovered. 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. If a similar item is subsequently provided by an unrelated supplier who has obtained a written order prior to delivery, it will be eligible for coverage.

#### **POLICY SPECIFIC DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS**

In addition to policy specific documentation requirements, there are general documentation requirements that are applicable to all DMEPOS policies. These general requirements are located in the DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS section of the LCD.

Refer to the LCD-related Standard Documentation Requirements article, located at the bottom of this Policy Article under the Related Local Coverage Documents section for additional information regarding GENERAL DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS and the POLICY SPECIFIC DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS discussed below.

#### **MODIFIERS**

##### KX, GA, AND GZ MODIFIERS:

Suppliers must add a KX modifier to code E0849 or E0855 only if all of the criteria in the "Coverage Indications, Limitations and/or Medical Necessity" section of the related LCD have been met and evidence of such is maintained in the supplier's files. This information must be available upon request.

If all of the criteria in the Coverage Indications, Limitations and/or Medical Necessity section in the related LCD have not been met, the GA or GZ modifier must be added to the code. When there is an expectation of a medical necessity denial, suppliers must enter the GA modifier on the claim line if they have obtained a properly executed Advance Beneficiary Notice (ABN) or the GZ modifier if they have not obtained a valid ABN.

Claims lines billed without a KX, GA, or GZ modifier will be rejected as missing information.

#### **CODING GUIDELINES**

Code E0855 describes cervical traction devices that provide traction on the cervical anatomy without the use of a door or external frame or stand. Traction may be applied by means of mandibular or occipital pressure.

Code E0860 describes cervical traction devices that provide traction on the cervical anatomy through a system of pulleys and rope and are attached to a door. Traction may be applied in either the upright or supine position.

Code E0849 describes cervical traction devices that provide traction on the cervical anatomy through the use of a free-standing frame. Traction force is applied by means of pneumatic displacement to anatomical areas other than the mandible (e.g., the occipital region of the skull). Devices described by code E0849 must be capable of generating traction forces greater than 20 pounds. In addition, code E0849 devices allow traction to be applied with alternative vectors of force (e.g., 15 degrees of lateral neck flexion).

Suppliers should contact the Pricing, Data Analysis and Coding (PDAC) Contractor for guidance on the correct

coding of these items.

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## Coding Information

### Bill Type Codes:

Contractors may specify Bill Types to help providers identify those Bill Types typically used to report this service. Absence of a Bill Type does not guarantee that the article does not apply to that Bill Type. Complete absence of all Bill Types indicates that coverage is not influenced by Bill Type and the article should be assumed to apply equally to all claims.

N/A

### Revenue Codes:

Contractors may specify Revenue Codes to help providers identify those Revenue Codes typically used to report this service. In most instances Revenue Codes are purely advisory. Unless specified in the article, services reported under other Revenue Codes are equally subject to this coverage determination. Complete absence of all Revenue Codes indicates that coverage is not influenced by Revenue Code and the article should be assumed to apply equally to all Revenue Codes.

N/A

**CPT/HCPCS Codes** N/A

**ICD-10 Codes that are Covered** N/A

**ICD-10 Codes that are Not Covered** N/A

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## Revision History Information

Revision History Date	Revision History Number	Revision History Explanation
01/01/2017	R5	<b>Revision Effective Date: 01/01/2017</b> NON-MEDICAL NECESSITY COVERAGE AND PAYMENT RULES Added: 42 CFR 410.38(g) language, previously in Policy specific Documentation Requirement section.  <i>04/05/2018: At this time 21st Century Cures Act applies to new and revised LCDs that restrict coverage, which require comment and notice. This revision is to an article that is not a local coverage determination.</i>
01/01/2017	R4	<b>Revision Effective Date: 01/01/2017</b> POLICY SPECIFIC DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS: Added: 42 CFR 410.38(g) and Modifiers requirements RELATED LOCAL COVERAGE DOCUMENTS: Added: LCD-related Standard Documentation Requirements Language Article
07/01/2016	R3	<b>Revision Effective Date: 07/01/2016</b> NON-MEDICAL NECESSITY COVERAGE AND PAYMENT RULES: Revised Standard Language to add Statutory Prescription (Order) Requirements, revised Face to Face and ACA requirements (Effective 04/28/2016) Effective July 1, 2016 oversight for DME MAC Articles is the responsibility of CGS Administrators, LLC 18003 and 17013 and Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC 19003 and 16013. No other changes have been made to the Articles.
07/01/2016	R2	
10/01/2015	R1	<b>Revision Effective Date: 10/01/2015</b> NON-MEDICAL NECESSITY COVERAGE AND PAYMENT RULES:

**Revision  
History Date**

**Revision  
History  
Number**

**Revision History Explanation**

Revised: HCPCS E0856 Narrative in ACA table

Removed: "When required by state law" from ACA new prescription requirements

[Back to Top](#) **Related Local Coverage Document(s)** Article(s) [A55426 - Standard Documentation Requirements for All Claims Submitted to DME MACs](#) LCD(s) [L33823 - Cervical Traction Devices](#)

**Related National Coverage Document(s)** N/A

**Statutory Requirements URL(s)** N/A

**Rules and Regulations URL(s)** N/A

**CMS Manual Explanations URL(s)** N/A

**Other URL(s)** N/A

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## **Keywords**

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