

# Local Coverage Determination (LCD): Spinal Orthoses: TLSO and LSO (L33790)

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## Contractor Information

<b>Contractor Name</b>	<b>Contract Type</b>	<b>Contract Number</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>State(s)</b>
<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 Kansas Missouri - Entire State Montana North Dakota Nebraska Nevada Oregon South Dakota
<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	

## LCD Information

### Document Information

LCD ID  
L33790Original Effective Date  
For services performed on or after 10/01/2015

Original ICD-9 LCD ID

[L27017](#)  
[L11448](#)  
[L11470](#)  
[L11459](#)Revision Effective Date  
For services performed on or after 01/01/2017Revision Ending Date  
N/ALCD Title  
Spinal Orthoses: TLSO and LSORetirement Date  
N/A

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Notice Period Start Date  
N/ANotice Period End Date  
N/A

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CMS National Coverage Policy None

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.

For spinal orthoses definitions of Off-The-Shelf (OTS), custom fitted and custom fabricated, refer to the CODING GUIDELINES section in the LCD-related Policy Article.

A spinal orthosis (L0450 - L0651) is covered when it is ordered for one of the following indications:

1. To reduce pain by restricting mobility of the trunk; or
2. To facilitate healing following an injury to the spine or related soft tissues; or
3. To facilitate healing following a surgical procedure on the spine or related soft tissue; or
4. To otherwise support weak spinal muscles and/or a deformed spine.

If a spinal orthosis is provided and the coverage criteria are not met, the item will be denied as not medically 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.

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.

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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:**

CG - Policy criteria applied

EY – No physician or other licensed health care provider order for this item or service

**HCPCS CODES:**

**Group 1 Codes:**

A4467 BELT, STRAP, SLEEVE, GARMENT, OR COVERING, ANY TYPE

A9270 NON-COVERED ITEM OR SERVICE

L0450 TLSO, FLEXIBLE, PROVIDES TRUNK SUPPORT, UPPER THORACIC REGION, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISKS WITH RIGID STAYS OR PANEL(S), INCLUDES SHOULDER STRAPS AND CLOSURES, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF

L0452 TLSO, FLEXIBLE, PROVIDES TRUNK SUPPORT, UPPER THORACIC REGION, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISKS WITH RIGID STAYS OR PANEL(S), INCLUDES SHOULDER STRAPS AND CLOSURES, CUSTOM FABRICATED

L0454 TLSO FLEXIBLE, PROVIDES TRUNK SUPPORT, EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO ABOVE T-9 VERTEBRA, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN THE SAGITTAL PLANE, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISKS WITH RIGID STAYS OR PANEL(S), INCLUDES SHOULDER STRAPS AND CLOSURES, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE

L0455 TLSO, FLEXIBLE, PROVIDES TRUNK SUPPORT, EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO ABOVE T-9 VERTEBRA, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN THE SAGITTAL PLANE, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISKS WITH RIGID STAYS OR PANEL(S), INCLUDES SHOULDER STRAPS AND CLOSURES, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF

L0456 TLSO, FLEXIBLE, PROVIDES TRUNK SUPPORT, THORACIC REGION, RIGID POSTERIOR PANEL AND SOFT ANTERIOR APRON, EXTENDS FROM THE SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION AND TERMINATES JUST INFERIOR TO THE SCAPULAR SPINE, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN THE SAGITTAL PLANE, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISKS, INCLUDES STRAPS AND CLOSURES, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE

L0457 TLSO, FLEXIBLE, PROVIDES TRUNK SUPPORT, THORACIC REGION, RIGID POSTERIOR PANEL AND SOFT ANTERIOR APRON, EXTENDS FROM THE SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION AND TERMINATES JUST INFERIOR TO THE SCAPULAR SPINE, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN THE SAGITTAL PLANE, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISKS, INCLUDES STRAPS AND CLOSURES, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF

L0458

- TLSO, TRIPLANAR CONTROL, MODULAR SEGMENTED SPINAL SYSTEM, TWO RIGID PLASTIC SHELLS, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM THE SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION AND TERMINATES JUST INFERIOR TO THE SCAPULAR SPINE, ANTERIOR EXTENDS FROM THE SYMPHYSIS PUBIS TO THE XIPHOID, SOFT LINER, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN THE SAGITTAL, CORONAL, AND TRANSVERSE PLANES, LATERAL STRENGTH IS PROVIDED BY OVERLAPPING PLASTIC AND STABILIZING CLOSURES, INCLUDES STRAPS AND CLOSURES, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
- L0460 TLSO, TRIPLANAR CONTROL, MODULAR SEGMENTED SPINAL SYSTEM, TWO RIGID PLASTIC SHELLS, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM THE SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION AND TERMINATES JUST INFERIOR TO THE SCAPULAR SPINE, ANTERIOR EXTENDS FROM THE SYMPHYSIS PUBIS TO THE STERNAL NOTCH, SOFT LINER, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN THE SAGITTAL, CORONAL, AND TRANSVERSE PLANES, LATERAL STRENGTH IS PROVIDED BY OVERLAPPING PLASTIC AND STABILIZING CLOSURES, INCLUDES STRAPS AND CLOSURES, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE
- L0462 TLSO, TRIPLANAR CONTROL, MODULAR SEGMENTED SPINAL SYSTEM, THREE RIGID PLASTIC SHELLS, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM THE SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION AND TERMINATES JUST INFERIOR TO THE SCAPULAR SPINE, ANTERIOR EXTENDS FROM THE SYMPHYSIS PUBIS TO THE STERNAL NOTCH, SOFT LINER, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN THE SAGITTAL, CORONAL, AND TRANSVERSE PLANES, LATERAL STRENGTH IS PROVIDED BY OVERLAPPING PLASTIC AND STABILIZING CLOSURES, INCLUDES STRAPS AND CLOSURES, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
- L0464 TLSO, TRIPLANAR CONTROL, MODULAR SEGMENTED SPINAL SYSTEM, FOUR RIGID PLASTIC SHELLS, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION AND TERMINATES JUST INFERIOR TO SCAPULAR SPINE, ANTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SYMPHYSIS PUBIS TO THE STERNAL NOTCH, SOFT LINER, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN SAGITTAL, CORONAL, AND TRANSVERSE PLANES, LATERAL STRENGTH IS PROVIDED BY OVERLAPPING PLASTIC AND STABILIZING CLOSURES, INCLUDES STRAPS AND CLOSURES, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
- L0466 TLSO, SAGITTAL CONTROL, RIGID POSTERIOR FRAME AND FLEXIBLE SOFT ANTERIOR APRON WITH STRAPS, CLOSURES AND PADDING, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN SAGITTAL PLANE, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON INTERVERTEBRAL DISKS, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE
- L0467 TLSO, SAGITTAL CONTROL, RIGID POSTERIOR FRAME AND FLEXIBLE SOFT ANTERIOR APRON WITH STRAPS, CLOSURES AND PADDING, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN SAGITTAL PLANE, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON INTERVERTEBRAL DISKS, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
- L0468 TLSO, SAGITTAL-CORONAL CONTROL, RIGID POSTERIOR FRAME AND FLEXIBLE SOFT ANTERIOR APRON WITH STRAPS, CLOSURES AND PADDING, EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION OVER SCAPULAE, LATERAL STRENGTH PROVIDED BY PELVIC, THORACIC, AND LATERAL FRAME PIECES, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN SAGITTAL, AND CORONAL PLANES, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON INTERVERTEBRAL DISKS, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE
- L0469 TLSO, SAGITTAL-CORONAL CONTROL, RIGID POSTERIOR FRAME AND FLEXIBLE SOFT ANTERIOR APRON WITH STRAPS, CLOSURES AND PADDING, EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION OVER SCAPULAE, LATERAL STRENGTH PROVIDED BY PELVIC, THORACIC, AND LATERAL FRAME PIECES, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN SAGITTAL AND CORONAL PLANES, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON INTERVERTEBRAL DISKS, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
- L0470 TLSO, TRIPLANAR CONTROL, RIGID POSTERIOR FRAME AND FLEXIBLE SOFT ANTERIOR APRON WITH STRAPS, CLOSURES AND PADDING, EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO SCAPULA, LATERAL STRENGTH PROVIDED BY PELVIC, THORACIC, AND LATERAL FRAME PIECES, ROTATIONAL STRENGTH PROVIDED BY SUBCLAVICULAR EXTENSIONS, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN SAGITTAL, CORONAL, AND TRANSVERSE PLANES, PROVIDES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISKS, INCLUDES FITTING AND SHAPING THE FRAME, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
- L0472 TLSO, TRIPLANAR CONTROL, HYPEREXTENSION, RIGID ANTERIOR AND LATERAL FRAME EXTENDS FROM SYMPHYSIS PUBIS TO STERNAL NOTCH WITH TWO ANTERIOR COMPONENTS (ONE PUBIC AND ONE STERNAL), POSTERIOR AND LATERAL PADS WITH STRAPS AND CLOSURES, LIMITS SPINAL FLEXION, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN SAGITTAL, CORONAL, AND TRANSVERSE PLANES, INCLUDES FITTING AND SHAPING THE FRAME, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
- L0480 TLSO, TRIPLANAR CONTROL, ONE PIECE RIGID PLASTIC SHELL WITHOUT INTERFACE LINER, WITH MULTIPLE STRAPS AND CLOSURES, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION AND TERMINATES JUST INFERIOR TO SCAPULAR SPINE, ANTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SYMPHYSIS PUBIS TO STERNAL NOTCH, ANTERIOR OR POSTERIOR OPENING, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN SAGITTAL, CORONAL, AND TRANSVERSE PLANES, INCLUDES A CARVED PLASTER OR CAD-CAM MODEL, CUSTOM FABRICATED
- L0482

- L0484 TLSO, TRIPLANAR CONTROL, ONE PIECE RIGID PLASTIC SHELL WITH INTERFACE LINER, MULTIPLE STRAPS AND CLOSURES, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION AND TERMINATES JUST INFERIOR TO SCAPULAR SPINE, ANTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SYMPHYSIS PUBIS TO STERNAL NOTCH, ANTERIOR OR POSTERIOR OPENING, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN SAGITTAL, CORONAL, AND TRANSVERSE PLANES, INCLUDES A CARVED PLASTER OR CAD-CAM MODEL, CUSTOM FABRICATED
- L0486 TLSO, TRIPLANAR CONTROL, TWO PIECE RIGID PLASTIC SHELL WITHOUT INTERFACE LINER, WITH MULTIPLE STRAPS AND CLOSURES, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION AND TERMINATES JUST INFERIOR TO SCAPULAR SPINE, ANTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SYMPHYSIS PUBIS TO STERNAL NOTCH, LATERAL STRENGTH IS ENHANCED BY OVERLAPPING PLASTIC, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN THE SAGITTAL, CORONAL, AND TRANSVERSE PLANES, INCLUDES A CARVED PLASTER OR CAD-CAM MODEL, CUSTOM FABRICATED
- L0488 TLSO, TRIPLANAR CONTROL, ONE PIECE RIGID PLASTIC SHELL WITH INTERFACE LINER, MULTIPLE STRAPS AND CLOSURES, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION AND TERMINATES JUST INFERIOR TO SCAPULAR SPINE, ANTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SYMPHYSIS PUBIS TO STERNAL NOTCH, ANTERIOR OR POSTERIOR OPENING, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN SAGITTAL, CORONAL, AND TRANSVERSE PLANES, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
- L0490 TLSO, SAGITTAL-CORONAL CONTROL, ONE PIECE RIGID PLASTIC SHELL, WITH OVERLAPPING REINFORCED ANTERIOR, WITH MULTIPLE STRAPS AND CLOSURES, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION AND TERMINATES AT OR BEFORE THE T-9 VERTEBRA, ANTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SYMPHYSIS PUBIS TO XIPHOID, ANTERIOR OPENING, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN SAGITTAL AND CORONAL PLANES, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
- L0491 TLSO, SAGITTAL-CORONAL CONTROL, MODULAR SEGMENTED SPINAL SYSTEM, TWO RIGID PLASTIC SHELLS, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM THE SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION AND TERMINATES JUST INFERIOR TO THE SCAPULAR SPINE, ANTERIOR EXTENDS FROM THE SYMPHYSIS PUBIS TO THE XIPHOID, SOFT LINER, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN THE SAGITTAL AND CORONAL PLANES, LATERAL STRENGTH IS PROVIDED BY OVERLAPPING PLASTIC AND STABILIZING CLOSURES, INCLUDES STRAPS AND CLOSURES, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
- L0492 TLSO, SAGITTAL-CORONAL CONTROL, MODULAR SEGMENTED SPINAL SYSTEM, THREE RIGID PLASTIC SHELLS, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM THE SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION AND TERMINATES JUST INFERIOR TO THE SCAPULAR SPINE, ANTERIOR EXTENDS FROM THE SYMPHYSIS PUBIS TO THE XIPHOID, SOFT LINER, RESTRICTS GROSS TRUNK MOTION IN THE SAGITTAL AND CORONAL PLANES, LATERAL STRENGTH IS PROVIDED BY OVERLAPPING PLASTIC AND STABILIZING CLOSURES, INCLUDES STRAPS AND CLOSURES, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
- L0621 SACROILIAC ORTHOSIS, FLEXIBLE, PROVIDES PELVIC-SACRAL SUPPORT, REDUCES MOTION ABOUT THE SACROILIAC JOINT, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
- L0623 SACROILIAC ORTHOSIS, PROVIDES PELVIC-SACRAL SUPPORT, WITH RIGID OR SEMI-RIGID PANELS OVER THE SACRUM AND ABDOMEN, REDUCES MOTION ABOUT THE SACROILIAC JOINT, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
- L0625 LUMBAR ORTHOSIS, FLEXIBLE, PROVIDES LUMBAR SUPPORT, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM L-1 TO BELOW L-5 VERTEBRA, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, SHOULDER STRAPS, STAYS, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
- L0626 LUMBAR ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL CONTROL, WITH RIGID POSTERIOR PANEL(S), POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM L-1 TO BELOW L-5 VERTEBRA, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, STAYS, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE
- L0627 LUMBAR ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL CONTROL, WITH RIGID ANTERIOR AND POSTERIOR PANELS, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM L-1 TO BELOW L-5 VERTEBRA, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE
- L0628 LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, FLEXIBLE, PROVIDES LUMBO-SACRAL SUPPORT, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE STAYS, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
- L0629

- LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, FLEXIBLE, PROVIDES LUMBO-SACRAL SUPPORT, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE STAYS, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, CUSTOM FABRICATED
- L0630 LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL CONTROL, WITH RIGID POSTERIOR PANEL(S), POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, STAYS, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE
- L0631 LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL CONTROL, WITH RIGID ANTERIOR AND POSTERIOR PANELS, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE
- L0632 LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL CONTROL, WITH RIGID ANTERIOR AND POSTERIOR PANELS, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, CUSTOM FABRICATED
- L0633 LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL-CORONAL CONTROL, WITH RIGID POSTERIOR FRAME/PANEL(S), POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, LATERAL STRENGTH PROVIDED BY RIGID LATERAL FRAME/PANELS, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, STAYS, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE
- L0634 LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL-CORONAL CONTROL, WITH RIGID POSTERIOR FRAME/PANEL(S), POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, LATERAL STRENGTH PROVIDED BY RIGID LATERAL FRAME/PANEL(S), PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, STAYS, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, CUSTOM FABRICATED
- L0635 LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL-CORONAL CONTROL, LUMBAR FLEXION, RIGID POSTERIOR FRAME/PANEL(S), LATERAL ARTICULATING DESIGN TO FLEX THE LUMBAR SPINE, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, LATERAL STRENGTH PROVIDED BY RIGID LATERAL FRAME/PANEL(S), PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, ANTERIOR PANEL, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED, INCLUDES FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT
- L0636 LUMBAR SACRAL ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL-CORONAL CONTROL, LUMBAR FLEXION, RIGID POSTERIOR FRAME/PANELS, LATERAL ARTICULATING DESIGN TO FLEX THE LUMBAR SPINE, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, LATERAL STRENGTH PROVIDED BY RIGID LATERAL FRAME/PANELS, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, ANTERIOR PANEL, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, CUSTOM FABRICATED
- L0637 LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL-CORONAL CONTROL, WITH RIGID ANTERIOR AND POSTERIOR FRAME/PANELS, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, LATERAL STRENGTH PROVIDED BY RIGID LATERAL FRAME/PANELS, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE
- L0638 LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL-CORONAL CONTROL, WITH RIGID ANTERIOR AND POSTERIOR FRAME/PANELS, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, LATERAL STRENGTH PROVIDED BY RIGID LATERAL FRAME/PANELS, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, CUSTOM FABRICATED
- L0639 LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL-CORONAL CONTROL, RIGID SHELL(S)/PANEL(S), POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, ANTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SYMPHYSIS PUBIS TO XYPHOID, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, OVERALL STRENGTH IS PROVIDED BY OVERLAPPING RIGID MATERIAL AND STABILIZING CLOSURES, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE SOFT INTERFACE, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE
- L0640

- LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL-CORONAL CONTROL, RIGID SHELL(S)/PANEL(S), POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, ANTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SYMPHYSIS PUBIS TO XYPHOID, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, OVERALL STRENGTH IS PROVIDED BY OVERLAPPING RIGID MATERIAL AND STABILIZING CLOSURES, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE SOFT INTERFACE, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, CUSTOM FABRICATED
- L0641 LUMBAR ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL CONTROL, WITH RIGID POSTERIOR PANEL(S), POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM L-1 TO BELOW L-5 VERTEBRA, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, STAYS, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
- L0642 LUMBAR ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL CONTROL, WITH RIGID ANTERIOR AND POSTERIOR PANELS, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM L-1 TO BELOW L-5 VERTEBRA, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
- L0643 LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL CONTROL, WITH RIGID POSTERIOR PANEL(S), POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, STAYS, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
- L0648 LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL CONTROL, WITH RIGID ANTERIOR AND POSTERIOR PANELS, POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
- L0649 LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL-CORONAL CONTROL, WITH RIGID POSTERIOR FRAME/PANEL(S), POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, LATERAL STRENGTH PROVIDED BY RIGID LATERAL FRAME/PANELS, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, STAYS, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
- L0650 LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL-CORONAL CONTROL, WITH RIGID ANTERIOR AND POSTERIOR FRAME/PANEL(S), POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, LATERAL STRENGTH PROVIDED BY RIGID LATERAL FRAME/PANEL(S), PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE PADDING, SHOULDER STRAPS, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
- L0651 LUMBAR-SACRAL ORTHOSIS, SAGITTAL-CORONAL CONTROL, RIGID SHELL(S)/PANEL(S), POSTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SACROCOCCYGEAL JUNCTION TO T-9 VERTEBRA, ANTERIOR EXTENDS FROM SYMPHYSIS PUBIS TO XYPHOID, PRODUCES INTRACAVITARY PRESSURE TO REDUCE LOAD ON THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS, OVERALL STRENGTH IS PROVIDED BY OVERLAPPING RIGID MATERIAL AND STABILIZING CLOSURES, INCLUDES STRAPS, CLOSURES, MAY INCLUDE SOFT INTERFACE, PENDULOUS ABDOMEN DESIGN, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF
- L0980 PERONEAL STRAPS, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF, PAIR
- L0982 STOCKING SUPPORTER GRIPS, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF, SET OF FOUR (4)
- L0984 PROTECTIVE BODY SOCK, PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF, EACH
- L4002 REPLACEMENT STRAP, ANY ORTHOSIS, INCLUDES ALL COMPONENTS, ANY LENGTH, ANY TYPE

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

## [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 physician'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**

All codes for orthoses or repairs of orthoses billed with the same date of service must be submitted on the same claim.

### **Appendices**

### **Utilization Guidelines**

Refer to Coverage Indications, Limitations and/or Medical Necessity.

Sources of Information and Basis for Decision

Reserved for future use. [Back to Top](#)

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## [Revision History Information](#)

<b>Revision History Date</b>	<b>Revision History Number</b>	<b>Revision History Explanation</b>	<b>Reason(s) for Change</b>
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Revision History Date	Revision History Number	Revision History Explanation	Reason(s) for Change
01/01/2017	R3	<p>Revision Effective Date: 01/01/2017:            COVERAGE INDICATIONS, LIMITATIONS AND/OR MEDICAL NECESSITY:            Removed: Standard Documentation Language            Added: New reference language and Directions to Standard Documentation Requirements            Added: General Requirements            HCPCS CODES:            Added: HCPCS Code A4467            Deleted: HCPCS Code A4466            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: Directions to Standard Documentation Requirements            Removed: Supplier Manual reference from Miscellaneous section            Removed: Information under Appendices            RELATED LOCAL COVERAGE DOCUMENTS:            Added: LCD-related Standard Documentation Requirements article</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provider Education/Guidance</li> <li>Revisions Due To CPT/HCPCS Code Changes</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: 05/01/2015</b>            COVERAGE INDICATIONS, LIMITATIONS AND/OR MEDICAL NECESSITY:            Revised: Standard Documentation Language to add covered prior to a beneficiary's Medicare eligibility            DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS:            Deleted: Reference to refill of supplies from Continued Use</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change in Assigned States or Affiliated Contract Numbers</li> </ul>
10/01/2015	R1	<p>Revised: Standard Documentation Language to add who can enter date of delivery date on the POD            Added: Instructions for Equipment Retained from a Prior Payer            POLICY SPECIFIC DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS:            Added: L0455 requires the CG modifier            Revised: Documentation responsibilities for prefabricated vs. custom fabricated devices to reflect revision of April 2015 bulletin article            Revised: Repair to beneficiary-owned DMEPOS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provider Education/Guidance</li> </ul>

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## [Associated Documents](#)

Attachments N/A

Related Local Coverage Documents Article(s) [A52500 - Spinal Orthoses: TLSO and LSO - Policy Article A55426 - Standard Documentation Requirements for All Claims Submitted to DME MACs](#)

Related National Coverage Documents N/A

Public Version(s) Updated on 03/10/2017 with effective dates 01/01/2017 - N/A [Updated on 06/07/2016 with effective dates 07/01/2016 - 12/31/2016](#) [Updated on 04/23/2015 with effective dates 10/01/2015 - 06/30/2016](#)

## **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: Spinal Orthoses: TLSO and LSO - Policy Article (A52500)

Links in PDF documents are not guaranteed to work. To follow a web link, please use the MCD Website.

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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**

A52500

**Original Article Effective Date**

10/01/2015

Original ICD-9 Article ID

[A47059](#)[A24086](#)[A23663](#)[A23846](#)**Revision Effective Date**

01/01/2017

**Revision Ending Date**

N/A

**Article Title**

Spinal Orthoses: TLSO and LSO - 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").

In order for a beneficiary's Orthosis to be eligible for reimbursement, the reasonable and necessary (R&N) requirements set out in the related Local Coverage Determination (LCD) must be met. In addition, there are specific statutory payment policy requirements, discussed below, that also must be met.

Lumbar Sacral Orthoses (LSO) and Thoracic Lumbar Sacral Orthoses (TLSO) are covered under the Medicare Braces Benefit (Social Security Act §1861(s)(9)). For coverage under this benefit, the orthosis must be a rigid or semi-rigid device, which is used for the purpose of supporting a weak or deformed body member or restricting or eliminating motion in a diseased or injured part of the body. Items that are not sufficiently rigid to be capable of providing the necessary immobilization or support to the body part for which it is designed do not meet the statutory definition of the Braces Benefit. Items that do not meet the definition of a brace are statutorily noncovered, no benefit.

Elastic or other fabric support garments (A4467 (BELT, STRAP, SLEEVE, GARMENT, OR COVERING, ANYTYPE)) with or without stays or panels do not meet the statutory definition of a brace because they are not rigid or semi-rigid devices. Code A4467 is denied as noncovered (no Medicare benefit). Refer to the coding guideline below for additional information.

Effective for claims with dates of service on or after July 1, 2010, spinal orthoses which have not received coding verification review from the Pricing, Data Analysis, and Coding (PDAC) contractor will be denied as statutorily noncovered, no benefit category.

Both "off-the-shelf" (OTS) and custom-fit items are considered prefabricated braces for Medicare coding purposes. 42 CFR §414.402 establishes that correct coding of a spinal orthosis is dependent upon whether there is a need for "minimal self-adjustment" during the final fitting at the time of delivery. (See definitions below in Coding Guidelines). If a custom fit code is billed when minimal self-adjustment was provided at final delivery, or if an OTS code is billed when substantial modifications were made at final delivery; claims will be denied as incorrect coding with a statutory denial.

A protective body sock (L0984) does not meet the definition of a brace and is noncovered.

There is no separate payment if CAD-CAM technology is used to fabricate an orthosis. Reimbursement is included in the allowance of the codes for custom fabricated orthoses.

Evaluation of the beneficiary, measurement and/or casting, and fitting/adjustments of the orthosis are included in the allowance for the orthosis. There is no separate payment for these services.

Payment for a spinal orthosis is included in the payment to a hospital or SNF if:

1. The orthosis is provided to a beneficiary prior to an inpatient hospital admission or Part A covered SNF stay; and
2. The medical necessity for the orthosis begins during the hospital or SNF stay (e.g., after spinal surgery).

A claim should not be submitted to the DME MAC in this situation.

Payment for a spinal orthosis is also included in the payment to a hospital or a Part A covered SNF stay if:

1. The orthosis is provided to a beneficiary during an inpatient hospital or Part A covered SNF stay prior to the day of discharge; and
2. The beneficiary uses the item for medically necessary inpatient treatment or rehabilitation.

A claim must not be submitted to the DME MAC in this situation.

Payment for a spinal orthosis delivered to a beneficiary in a hospital or a Part A covered SNF stay is eligible for coverage by the DME MAC if:

1. The orthosis is medically necessary for a beneficiary after discharge from a hospital or Part A covered SNF stay; and
2. The orthosis is provided to the beneficiary within two days prior to discharge to home; and
3. The orthosis is not needed for inpatient treatment or rehabilitation, but is left in the room for the beneficiary to take home.

## **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**

#### **CG Modifier**

The CG modifier must be added to code L0450, L0454, L0455, L0621, L0625, or L0628 only if it is one made primarily of nonelastic material (e.g., canvas, cotton or nylon) or having a rigid posterior panel. (Refer to the Coding Guidelines section below for instructions on the use of code A4467 for elastic spinal garments.)

When providing these items suppliers must:

- Provide the product that is specified by the ordering physician
- Be sure that the ordering physician's medical record justifies the need for the type of product (i.e., Prefabricated versus Custom Fabricated)
- Only bill for the HCPCS code that accurately reflects both the type of orthosis and the appropriate level of fitting
- Have detailed documentation in the supplier's record that justifies the code selected

For prefabricated orthoses, there is no physical difference between orthoses coded as custom fitted versus those coded as off-the-shelf. The differentiating factor for proper coding (refer to Coding Guidelines definitions below) is the need for "minimal self-adjustment" at the time of fitting by the beneficiary, caretaker for the beneficiary, or supplier. This minimal self-adjustment does not require the services of a certified orthotist or an individual who has specialized training. Items requiring minimal self-adjustment are coded as off-the-shelf orthoses. For example, adjustment of straps and closures, bending or trimming for final fit or comfort (not all-inclusive) fall into this category.

Fabrication of an orthosis using CAD/CAM or similar technology without the creation of a positive model with minimal self-adjustment at delivery is considered as OTS.

Items requiring substantial modification by a qualified practitioner are coded as custom fitted (L0454, L0456, L0458, L0460, L0462, L0464, L0466, L0468, L0470, L0472, L0488, L0490, L0491, L0492, L0626, L0627, L0630, L0631, L0633, L0635, L0637 and L0639). Documentation must be sufficiently detailed to include, but is not limited to, a detailed description of the modifications necessary at the time of fitting the orthosis to the beneficiary. This information must be available upon request.

For custom fabricated orthoses (L0452, L0480, L0482, L0484, L0486, L0629, L0632, L0634, L0636, L0638 and L0640), there must be detailed documentation in the treating practitioner's records to support the medical necessity of custom fabricated rather than a prefabricated orthosis as described in the Coverage Indications, Limitations and/or Medical Necessity section of the related LCD. This information will be corroborated by the functional evaluation in the orthotist's or prosthetist's records. This information must be available upon request.

When providing these items suppliers must:

- Provide the product that is specified by the prescribing practitioner
- Be sure that the prescribing practitioner's medical record justifies the need for the type of product (i.e., Prefabricated versus Custom Fabricated)
- Only bill for the HCPCS code that accurately reflects both the type of orthosis and the appropriate level of fitting
- Have detailed documentation in supplier's records that justifies the code selected

## **CODING GUIDELINES**

Off-the-shelf (OTS) orthotics are:

- Items that are prefabricated.
- They may or may not be supplied as a kit that requires some assembly. Assembly of the item and/or installation of add-on components and/or the use of some basic materials in preparation of the item does not change classification from OTS to custom fitted.
- OTS items require minimal self-adjustment for fitting at the time of delivery for appropriate use and do not require expertise in trimming, bending, and molding, assembling, or customizing to fit an individual.
- This fitting does not require expertise of a certified orthotist or an individual who has equivalent specialized training in the provision of orthoses to fit the item to the individual beneficiary.

The term "minimal self-adjustment" is defined at 42 CFR §414.402 as an adjustment the beneficiary, caretaker for the beneficiary, or supplier of the device can perform and that does not require the services of a certified orthotist (that is, an individual who is certified by the American Board for Certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics, Inc., or by the Board for Orthotist/Prosthetist Certification) or an individual who has specialized training. For example, adjustment of straps and closures, bending or trimming for final fit or comfort (not all-inclusive) fall into this category. See "substantial modification" definition below for additional information.

Use of CAD/CAM or similar technology to create an orthosis without the production of a positive model of the patient may be considered as OTS if the final fitting at the time of delivery to the patient requires minimal self-adjustment not requiring expertise as described in this section.

Custom fitted orthotics are:

- Devices that are prefabricated.
- They may or may not be supplied as a kit that requires some assembly. Assembly of the item and/or installation of add-on components and/or the use of some basic materials in preparation of the item does not change classification from OTS to custom fitted.
- Classification as custom fitted requires substantial modification for fitting at the time of delivery in order to provide an individualized fit, i.e., the item must be trimmed, bent, molded (with or without heat), or otherwise modified resulting in alterations beyond minimal self-adjustment.
- This fitting at delivery does require expertise of a certified orthotist or an individual who has equivalent specialized training in the provision of orthosis to fit the item to the individual beneficiary.

In contrast to "minimal self-adjustment"; "substantial modification" is defined as changes made to achieve an individualized fit during the final fitting at the time of delivery of the item that requires the expertise of a certified orthotist or an individual who has equivalent specialized training in the provision of orthotics such as a physician,

treating practitioner, an occupational therapist, or physical therapist in compliance with all applicable Federal and State licensure and regulatory requirements. A certified orthotist is defined as an individual who is certified by the American Board for Certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics, Inc., or by the Board for Orthotist/Prosthetist Certification.

For some prefabricated orthoses where there is no HCPCS coding narrative distinction between orthoses that are custom-fit versus those provided as OTS. Regardless of the type of fitting provided at the time of delivery, these prefabricated HCPCS code appropriately describe the item and must be used for Medicare billing.

There are products that may be either fit by the beneficiary or require custom fitting at the time of final delivery where there are parallel sets of HCPCS codes that describe identical types of items. The codes are only differentiated based upon the nature of the final fitting performed at the time of delivery. The alternative HCPCS code types are:

- HCPCS codes which describe "PREFABRICATED, OFF-THE-SHELF" must be used when minimal self-adjustment is the extent of the fitting performed at delivery.
- HCPCS codes which describe "PREFABRICATED ITEM THAT HAS BEEN TRIMMED, BENT, MOLDED, ASSEMBLED, OR OTHERWISE CUSTOMIZED TO FIT A SPECIFIC PATIENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE" must be used when substantial modification is necessary at delivery.

Spinal orthoses (L0450 - L0651) have the following characteristics:

1. Used to immobilize the specified areas of the spine
2. Intimate fit and generally designed to be worn under clothing
3. Not specifically designed for beneficiaries in wheelchairs

In addition to (1) and (2), the body jacket type orthoses (L0458-L0464, L0480-L0492, L0639, L0640) are characterized by a rigid plastic shell that encircles the trunk with overlapping edges and stabilizing closures and provides a high degree of immobility. The entire circumference of the plastic shell must be the same rigid material.

A rigid or semi rigid orthotic device eliminates or restricts motion in the planes being controlled by an orthosis.

A spinal orthosis is designed to control gross movement of the trunk and intersegmental motion of the vertebrae in one or more planes of motion:

- Lateral/flexion (side bending) in the coronal/frontal plane. Control of this plane is achieved by a rigid panel in the mid-axillary line, which is either an integral part of a posterior or anterior panel, or a separate panel.
- Anterior flexion (forward bending) or posterior extension (backward bending) in the sagittal plane. Control of this plane is achieved by a rigid posterior panel.
- Axial rotation (twisting) viewed in the transverse plane. Straps over the shoulders attaching to a posterior panel alone do not provide transverse spinal control.

The purpose of a rigid or semi-rigid LSO and TLSO spinal orthosis is to restrict the effect of the forces within a three point pressure system. The posterior panel must encompass the paraspinal muscle bodies from one lateral border to another in order to provide sufficient surface area to enhance the three point pressure system. The posterior panel must provide coverage to meet the minimum height requirements as described in the individual HCPCS codes. Spinal Orthoses that do not meet the Medicare definition of a brace should be coded as A9270.

For an item to be classified as a TLSO the posterior portion of the brace must extend from the sacrococcygeal junction to just inferior to the scapular spine. This excludes elastic or equal shoulder straps or other strapping methods. The anterior portion of the orthosis must at a minimum extend from the symphysis pubis to the xiphoid. Some TLSOs may require the anterior portion of the orthosis to extend up to the sternal notch.

## Elastic and Similar Stretchable Materials

For items where the HCPCS code specifies "elastic" or other similar terminology for stretchable material, use the code that is most applicable to the item. A NOC (Not Otherwise Classified) or miscellaneous HCPCS code must not be used instead of the specific code. Refer to the long code narrative and any relevant coding guideline for the criteria applicable for each HCPCS code.

For items where the HCPCS code does not specify elastic or other similar terminology for stretchable material, the following guidelines apply:

- Items that are primarily constructed of elastic or other stretchable materials (e.g. support items made of material such as neoprene or spandex (elastane, Lycra®) (not all-inclusive)) must be coded as A4467 (BELT, STRAP, SLEEVE, GARMENT, OR COVERING, ANYTYPE).
- Items that are primarily constructed of elastic or other stretchable materials (e.g. support items made of material such as neoprene or spandex (elastane, Lycra®]) (not all-inclusive)) that contain stays and/or panels must be coded as A4467 (BELT, STRAP, SLEEVE, GARMENT, OR COVERING, ANYTYPE).
- Items that are primarily constructed of inelastic material (e.g., canvas, cotton or nylon (not all-inclusive)) that are incapable of providing the necessary immobilization or support to the body part for which it is designed must be coded using A4467 (BELT, STRAP, SLEEVE, GARMENT, OR COVERING, ANYTYPE).
- Items that are primarily of constructed inelastic material (e.g., canvas, cotton or nylon (not all-inclusive)) that are incapable of providing the necessary immobilization or support to the body part for which it is designed and that have stays and/or panels capable of providing the required immobilization or support to the body part for which it is designed, must be coded using A4467 (BELT, STRAP, SLEEVE, GARMENT, OR COVERING, ANYTYPE).
- Items that are primarily constructed of inelastic material (e.g., canvas, cotton or nylon (not all-inclusive)) capable of providing the necessary immobilization or support to the body part for which it is designed must be coded using the applicable specific HCPCS code for the type of product. A NOC (Not Otherwise Classified) or miscellaneous HCPCS code must not be used instead of the specific code. Refer to the long code narrative and any relevant coding guideline for the criteria applicable for each HCPCS code.
- Items that are primarily of constructed inelastic material (e.g., canvas, cotton or nylon (not all-inclusive)) capable of providing the necessary immobilization or support to the body part for which it is designed and that have stays and/or panels capable of providing the required immobilization or support to the body part for which it is designed, must be coded using the applicable specific HCPCS code for the type of product. A NOC (Not Otherwise Classified) or miscellaneous HCPCS code must not be used instead of the specific code. Refer to the long code narrative and relevant coding guideline for the criteria applicable for each HCPCS code.
- Items that are not capable of providing the necessary immobilization or support to the body part for which it is designed (regardless of materials) must be coded using A9270 (NONCOVERED ITEM OR SERVICE).

Codes L0450, L0454, L0455, L0621, L0625, and L0628 may only be used for orthoses that are made primarily of nonelastic material (e.g., canvas, cotton or nylon). Refer to the Documentation Requirement section of the LCD for instructions concerning use of the CG modifier for these products.

A custom fabricated orthosis is one which is individually made for a specific beneficiary (no other beneficiary would be able to use this orthosis) starting with basic materials including, but not limited to, plastic, metal, leather, or cloth in the form of sheets, bars, etc. It involves substantial work such as vacuum forming, cutting, bending, molding, sewing, etc. It requires more than trimming, bending, or making other modifications to a substantially prefabricated item. A molded-to-beneficiary-model orthosis is a particular type of custom fabricated orthosis in which either:

1. An impression of the specific body part is made (usually by means of a plaster or fiberglass cast) and this impression is then used to make a positive model (usually of plaster) of the body part; or
2. Detailed measurements are taken of the beneficiary's torso and are used to modify a positive model (which has been selected from a large library of models) to make it conform to the beneficiary's body shape and dimensions; or

3. A digital image of the beneficiary's torso is made using computer (CAD-CAM) software which then directs the carving of a positive model.

The orthosis is then individually fabricated and molded over the positive model of the beneficiary.

There is no separate billing if CAD-CAM technology is used to fabricate an orthosis.

Effective for claims with dates of service on or after July 1, 2010, the only products that may be billed using codes, L0450, L0454-L0472, L0488-L0492, L0625-L0628, L0630, L0631, L0633, L0635, L0637, and L0639 for prefabricated orthoses (both OTS and custom fitted) are those that are specified in the Product Classification List on the Pricing, Data Analysis, and Coding (PDAC) contractor website.

There are two categories of custom fabricated spinal orthoses (codes L0452, L0480-L0486, L0629, L0632, L0634, L0636, L0638, and L0640):

- Orthoses that are custom fabricated by a manufacturer/central fabrication facility and then sent to someone other than the beneficiary. Effective for claims with dates of service on or after July 1, 2010, these items may be billed using one of these codes only if they are listed in the Product Classification List on the PDAC web site.
- Orthoses that are custom fabricated from raw materials and are dispensed directly to the beneficiary by the entity that fabricated the orthosis. These items do not have to be listed on the PDAC web site in order to be billed using a custom fabricated spinal orthosis code. However, the supplier must provide a list of the materials that were used and a description of the custom fabrication process on request.

Effective for claims with dates of service on or after July 1, 2010, prefabricated spinal orthoses and spinal orthoses that are custom fabricated by a manufacturer/central fabrication facility which have not received coding verification review from the PDAC must be billed with code A9270.

Suppliers should contact the PDAC Contractor for guidance on the correct coding of these items. [Back to Top](#)

## [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

## Revision History Information

<b>Revision History Date</b>	<b>Revision History Number</b>	<b>Revision History Explanation</b>
01/01/2017	R3	Revision Effective Date: 01/01/2017 NON-MEDICAL NECESSITY COVERAGE AND PAYMENT RULES: Revised: Brace Benefit explanation to remove reference to "counterforce" that is no longer applicable Revised: Prefabricated and OTS "minimal self-adjustment" regulatory definition discussion to improve consistency with regulatory definition of minimal self-adjustment Deleted: A4466 Added: A4467 Added: Policy specific documentation requirements from LCD CODING GUIDELINES: Removed: Reference to classification algorithm summary Revised: OTS and custom-fit definitions to improve consistency with regulatory definition of "minimal self-adjustment" Added: Section on coding of elastic and similar materials Deleted: A4466 Added: A4467 RELATED LOCAL COVERAGE DOCUMENTS: Added: LCD-related Standard Documentation Requirements Language Article 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	<b>Revision Effective Date: 10/31/2014</b> NON-MEDICAL NECESSITY COVERAGE AND PAYMENT RULES CODING GUIDELINES: Added: L0455 added to paragraph regarding items made of primarily nonelastic material
10/01/2015	R1	

[Back to Top](#) **Related Local Coverage Document(s)** Article(s) [A55426 - Standard Documentation Requirements for All Claims Submitted to DME MACs](#) LCD(s) [L33790 - Spinal Orthoses: TLSO and LSO](#)

**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

**Public Version(s)** Updated on 03/10/2017 with effective dates 01/01/2017 - N/A [Updated on 06/07/2016 with effective dates 07/01/2016 - N/A](#) [Updated on 04/23/2015 with effective dates 10/01/2015 - N/A](#) [Updated on 04/04/2014 with effective dates 10/01/2015 - N/A](#) [Back to Top](#)

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## Keywords

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