PEAK FLOW METERS

Policy

VCHCP considers peak flow meters to be durable medical equipment (DME)¹.

VCHCP will cover standard mechanical peak flow meters for eligible members with asthma, bronchitis, emphysema, or other obstructive pulmonary conditions to monitor the severity of their disease and their response to therapy. VCHCP does **NOT** cover electronic peak flow meters. There is inadequate evidence to show that electronic peak flow meters, such as the PeakLog Peak Flow Chronologger or the AirWatch Peak Flow Monitoring System, are associated with superior health benefits when compared to standard mechanical peak flow meters.

Procedure

A treatment authorization request (TAR) must be submitted to UR for approval.

Place of Service:  Outpatient

A. Attachments:  None

B. History:

Reviewers: Richard O. Ashby MD & Thomas Brugman MD; November 2001
Committee Review: QAC: November 2001
David Chernof, MD & Chris Landon, MD; July 2004
Committee Review: UM: November 08, 2004
Reviewed/No Updates: Faustine Dela Cruz, RN & Albert Reeves, MD; November 7, 2011
Committee Review: UM: November 10, 2011; QAC: November 22, 2011
Reviewed/No Updates: Albert Reeves, MD; April 17, 2012
Reviewed/No Updates: Albert Reeves, MD; January 28, 2013
Reviewed/No Updates: Catherine Sanders, MD
Reviewed/No Updates: Catherine Sanders, MD
Reviewed/No Updates: Faustine Dela Cruz, RN & Catherine Sanders, MD
Reviewed/No Updates: Catherine Sanders, MD & Robert Sterling

¹ DME is subject to an annual maximum for some plans.¹
Medical Policy: Peak Flow Meters
Effective November 8, 2001

Reviewed/Revised: July 16, 2004
Reviewed: November 7, 2011; April 17, 2012
Reviewed/No Updates: 1/28/13; 2/13/14; 2/12/15; 2/11/16; 2/9/17; 2/8/18; 2/14/19; 2/13/20; 2/11/21; 2/17/22; 2/2/23

Reviewed/No Updates: Catherine Sanders, MD & Robert Sterling
Committee Review: UM: February 8, 2018; QAC: February 27, 2018
Reviewed/No Updates: Catherine Sanders, MD & Robert Sterling, MD
Committee Review: UM: February 14, 2019; QAC: February 26, 2019
Reviewed/No Updates: Howard Taekman, MD & Robert Sterling, MD
Reviewed/No Updates: Howard Taekman, MD & Robert Sterling, MD
Reviewed/No Updates: Howard Taekman, MD & Robert Sterling, MD
Committee Review: UM: February 17, 2022; QAC: February 22, 2022
Reviewed/No Updates: Howard Taekman, MD & Robert Sterling, MD
Committee Review: UM: February 2, 2023; QAC: February 7, 2023

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C. References:


