

## LOW AIR LOSS MATTRESS

The following is required from MEDICARE. Medicare has become very stringent on each order and as a result are auditing every hospital bed billed. Currently, only 2 in 10 are being approved. As a result, we ask for Medicare's requirements prior to delivery. This is to help your success in approval for patient and to **protect your patient** from being **responsible for the cost later**.

### Low Air Loss Mattress Requirements

- Documented Face-to Face
- Documentation (Chart notes) with related diagnoses. Must provide Narrative including specific criteria from below
- Establish a Medical History
- Detailed Written Order (DWO): Includes Beneficiary Name, Item, NPI, Signature, Date of the Order, Length of Need (LON)

### Specific Criteria for Low Air Loss Mattress

PATIENT MUST MEET 1 OF THE FOLLOWING AND BE NARRATED IN THE PATIENT'S CHART NOTES:

- Patient has large or multiple Stage III or IV pressure ulcers on the trunk or pelvis  
{LARGE = 8 SQ CENTIMETERS, PLEASE EXPLAIN IN DETAIL}

OR

- Patient has multiple (2 or +) Stage II pressure ulcers on the trunk or pelvis which have failed to improve over the past month. The beneficiary has been on a comprehensive ulcer treatment program that would include **EACH** of the following:

- Use of appropriate group I Support Surface {SPECIFY WHICH}

- Regular assessment by RN, physician or other licensed practitioner  
{PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION FROM ALL ASSESSMENTS, BEING AS SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE}

- Appropriate turning and positioning {SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN ASSESSMENTS}

- Appropriate wound care {EXPLAIN WHAT WAS DONE, BE SPECIFIC}

- Appropriate management of moisture/incontinence  
{DOCUMENT INCONTINENCE AND WHAT IS BEING DONE TO PREVENT SKIN BREAKDOWN; BE SPECIFIC}

- Nutritional assessment and intervention consistent with overall plan of care  
{PLEASE BE SPECIFIC}

OR

- Has had a recent myocutaneous flap or skin graft on the trunk or pelvis AND
- Patient has recently been on a Group II or III Support Surface immediately prior to a recent discharge from a hospital or nursing facility

{DISCLAIMER:} Pressure Wound sizing, staging and location must be documented in medical record  
Mattress only applies in conjunction with a hospital bed due to safety and need to strap down device to bed frame