

Medicare Local Coverage Determination – Hospital Beds

A fixed height hospital is covered if one or more of the following criteria (1-4) are met:

1. The beneficiary has a medical condition which requires positioning of the body in ways not feasible with an ordinary bed. Elevation of the head/upper body less than 30 degrees does not usually require the use of a hospital bed, or
2. The beneficiary requires positioning of the body in ways not feasible with an ordinary bed in order to alleviate pain, or
3. The beneficiary requires the head of the bed to be elevated more than 30 degrees most of the time due to congestive heart failure, chronic pulmonary disease, or problems with aspiration, or
4. The beneficiary requires traction equipment, which can only be attached to a hospital bed.

A variable height hospital bed is covered if the beneficiary meets one of the criteria for a fixed height hospital bed and requires a bed height different than a fixed height hospital bed to permit transfers to chair, wheelchair or standing position.

A semi-electric hospital bed is covered if the beneficiary meets one of the criteria for a fixed height bed and requires frequent changes in body position and/or has an immediate need for a change in body position.

[Select the appropriate scenario for the patient's condition. Add in patient's pertinent symptom and condition.]

If none of the scenarios apply to your patient's condition, they do not meet Medicare's coverage criteria.]

[Phrase]

1. **Semi-Electric Hospital Bed – Positioning of Body not feasible in Ordinary Bed / HOB Elevation / Frequent Change in Body Position**

Due to ***** Symptom***** as a result of *****Condition*****, patient requires positioning of body in ways not feasible in ordinary bed such as elevation of head more than 30 degrees most of the time. Head of bed elevation over 30 degrees will alleviate exacerbated ***** Symptom***** caused by *****Condition*****. Patient also requires frequent change in body position such as immediate elevation of head of bed from flat position to elevation over 30 degree as a result of *****Symptom*****. Pillows and Wedges have been unsuccessful in accommodating the desired head of bed elevation therefore a hospital bed will be necessary for treating the effects of *****Condition*****.