

EXTERNAL CATHETERS/URINARY COLLECTION DEVICES:

Male external catheters (condom-type) or female external urinary collection devices are covered for patients who have permanent urinary incontinence when used as an alternative to an indwelling catheter.

The utilization of male external catheters (A4349) generally should not exceed 35 per month. Greater utilization of these devices must be accompanied by documentation of medical necessity.

Male external catheters (condom-type) or female external urinary collection devices will be denied as not medically necessary when ordered for patients who also use an indwelling catheter.

Specialty type male external catheters such as those that inflate or that include a faceplate (A4326) or extended wear catheter systems (A4348) are covered only when documentation substantiates the medical necessity for such a catheter. Payment will be based on the least costly medically appropriate alternative if documentation does not substantiate medical necessity.

For female external urinary collection devices, more than one meatal cup (A4327) per week or more than one pouch (A4328) per day will be denied as not medically necessary.

MISCELLANEOUS SUPPLIES:

Appliance cleaner (A5131) is covered when used to clean the inside of certain urinary collecting appliances (A5102, A5112). More than one unit of service (16 oz.) per month is rarely medically necessary.

One external urethral clamp or compression device (A4356) is covered every 3 months or sooner if the rubber/foam casing deteriorates.

Tape (A4450, A4452) which is used to secure an indwelling catheter to the patient's body is covered. More than 10 units (1 unit = 18 sq. in.; 10 units = 180 sq. in. = 5 yds. of 1 inch tape) per month will be denied as not medically necessary unless the claim is accompanied by documentation justifying a larger quantity in the individual case.

Adhesive catheter anchoring devices (A4333) and catheter leg straps (A4334) for indwelling urethral catheters are covered. More than 3 per week of A4333 or 1 per month of A4334 will be denied as not medically necessary unless the claim is accompanied by documentation justifying a larger quantity in the individual case. A catheter/tube anchoring device (A5200) is covered and separately payable when it is used to anchor a covered suprapubic tube or nephrostomy tube. If code A5200 is used to anchor an indwelling urethral catheter, payment will be based on the allowance for the least costly medically appropriate alternative, A4333.

Coverage Topic

Urological Supplies