

5101:3-10-09

Apnea (~~cardiorespiratory~~) monitors.**(A) Definitions.**

- (1) "Apnea (~~cardiorespiratory~~) monitors" are defined as cardiorespiratory monitoring devices capable of providing continuous or periodic two channel monitoring of heart rate and respiratory rate and must meet current food and drug administration FDA guidelines for products in this class. Apnea (~~cardiorespiratory~~) monitors must have alarming mechanisms to alert care givers of cardiorespiratory distress or other events which require immediate intervention and must be capable of recording and storing events (sometimes known as memory monitoring) and of providing event recording downloads or printouts of such data.
- (2) "Download" is defined as a print out of the two channel (or greater) event recordings from a memory monitor. Normally a download contains waveform printouts, event logs, and compliance and utilization information.
- (3) "Sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)" is defined as the sudden death of any infant or young child under one year of age that remains unexplained after the performance of a complete postmortem investigation, including an autopsy, an examination of the scene of death, and a review of the case history.
- (4) "Apparent life threatening event (ALTE)" is defined as an episode that is frightening to the observer and that is characterized by some combination of apnea (central or obstructive), color change (usually cyanotic or pallid but occasionally erythematous), marked changes in muscle tone (usually limpness), choking or gagging. In some cases, the observer fears the infant has died. Terminology such as aborted crib death or near miss SIDS should be abandoned because it implies a possible misleading close association between an ALTE and SIDS.

(B) Apnea (~~cardiorespiratory~~) monitors are reimbursed on a capped rental basis and require prior authorization for reimbursement in excess of four months. The maximum months of rental which may be reimbursed is limited to, or capped at, twelve months. The monthly medicaid fee includes payment for professional time and all maintenance and supplies. After the initial four months of rental, additional months of rental may be authorized for patients which meet the criteria in paragraph (D) of this rule.

(C) The following criteria must be met for coverage of an apnea (~~cardiorespiratory~~) monitor:

- (1) The provider must maintain on file a certificate of medical necessity (CMN)

signed by the attending physician documenting at least one or more of the following:

- (a) One or more apparent life-threatening events (ALTEs) requiring mouth-to-mouth resuscitation or vigorous stimulation; or
 - (b) Symptomatic preterm infant (active medical management of apnea of prematurity); or
 - (c) Sibling of one or more sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) victims; or
 - (d) Infant requires home oxygen therapy or invasive or non-invasive ventilatory support (technology dependent); or
 - (e) Tracheotomized infant (technology dependent); or
 - (f) Infant with abnormal pneumogram at discharge; or
 - (g) Multiple birth SIDS survivor(s); or
 - (h) Infants with severe gastroesophageal reflux with associated apneas; or
 - (i) Infants with severe upper airway abnormalities (e.g., achondroplasia, Pierre-Robin syndrome, etc.); or
 - (j) Infants with other disorders, specified on the CMN, that demonstrate a need for close cardiorespiratory monitoring to facilitate a more ~~speedy~~ timely discharge to home.
- (2) ~~Adherence to the requirements~~ Requirements for use of home monitoring ~~include but are not limited to the following: as recommended in the "Supplemental Statement on Home Monitoring 1984" adopted by the "Committee on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome of the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics."~~ These requirements include CPR training of care givers by certified trainers, education regarding mechanical aspects of monitors, in-hospital experience, twenty-four-hour availability of monitor service staff, etc.
- (a) Infant cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training of care givers by certified trainers;
 - (b) Education regarding mechanical aspects of monitors;

(c) In-hospital experience;

(d) Twenty-four hour availability of monitor service staff; and

(e) Attestation by the attending physician that the care givers are capable of being trained to use the monitor properly.

~~(3) Attestation by the attending physician that the family is capable of being trained to use the monitor properly.~~

~~(4)~~(3) The following diagnoses or conditions alone are not indications for monitoring:

(a) Seizure disorders (without life threatening events);

(b) Hydrocephalus, uncomplicated;

(c) Mental retardation;

(d) Irreversible terminal conditions;

(e) Congenital heart defects, with or without associated arrhythmias;

(f) Distant family history of apnea or SIDS (other than an immediate sibling);

(g) History of apnea monitor use with other siblings;

(h) History of apnea with other sibling(s);

(i) Parental anxiety or family request for a monitor;

(j) Monitoring of blood oxygen saturation.

(D) Length of need. Coverage of apnea (~~cardiorespiratory~~) monitors is generally limited to four months ~~for standard or nontechnology dependent patients and six months for technology dependent patients~~. Apnea monitors should be discontinued as soon as there is no medical indication to support the need for continued home monitoring. If the attending physician recommends continued monitoring beyond the initial four months of rental which are covered without prior authorization, evidence to support the medical need must be submitted with the request for authorization in accordance with paragraphs (D)(1) to (D)(3) of this rule.

Authorization may be granted for up to eight months of rental.

(1) Nontechnology dependent infants. Requests for authorization should include:

(a) Evidence that there has been clinically significant apnea or bradycardia within two months prior to the date of the prior authorization request. Supportive evidence may include a copy of a recent download noting apneas or bradycardias; documentation of a recent pneumogram noting apneas or bradycardias; documentation of a recent emergency room visit or hospital admission for an ALTE; ~~and~~

(b) Download report or download summary information with download report available on request by the department; and

~~(b)~~(c) Certificate of medical necessity signed by the attending physician stating the need for continued home monitoring.

(2) Technology dependent child. ~~Renewal requests must~~Requests for authorization should include the following:

(a) Evidence that the patient is still in need of the high technology products/services. Supportive evidence may include copies of recent clinician follow-up reports noting equipment and services still in use, copies of home nursing agency visits reports noting equipment and services still in use, etc.; ~~and~~

(b) Download report or download summary information with download report available on request by the department; and

~~(b)~~(c) Certificate of medical necessity signed by the attending physician stating the need for continued home monitoring.

(3) SIDS sibling. ~~Renewal requests must~~Requests for authorization should include the following:

(a) Same criteria as noted in paragraph (D)(1)(a) of this rule; or

(b) Patient is not beyond age of the death of the sibling who died of SIDS; ~~and~~

(c) Download report or download summary information with download report available on request by the department; and

~~(e)~~(d) Certificate of medical necessity signed by the attending physician documenting the need for continued home monitoring.

(E) Capped rental.

- (1) Apnea monitors are designated as capped rental equipment. If medical necessity requires use after twelve months, the rental is capped (no additional rental payments) and supplies may then be billed separately under the appropriate code. Because the apnea monitor rental fee includes payment for all supplies and maintenance, the apnea supply code may not be billed in any month in which the apnea rental code is billed. This includes any month in which the six-month maintenance fee is billed.
- (2) After twelve monthly rental payments have been made, rental payments will cease. If authorized for reimbursement beyond the twelfth month, at the end of each six-month period following the initial twelve-month rental period the provider may bill a single maintenance service charge to the department, not to exceed the monthly rental fee. The provider retains ownership of the equipment.
- (3) The billing code modifier CR should be used in billing capped rental items for the initial twelve months. When billing for the maintenance service charge, use the billing code modifier MS.

(F) Downloads.

- (1) Recording monitor downloads are covered for recipients receiving home apnea ~~(cardiorespiratory)~~ monitor services. Downloads are normally used to determine the presence of continued symptoms (apnea/bradycardia) and document such information. They may also be used to document compliance with home monitoring requirements. Download reports provide appropriate, objective medical information that may aid the physician in deciding to discontinue home monitoring or document the need for continued home monitoring. ~~Download reports supporting the need for continued monitoring (apneas/bradycardias) should be submitted with each prior authorization request for nontechnology dependent patients. Download reports may also be used to document medical necessity for monitoring of technology dependent recipients.~~
 - (a) A maximum of two outpatient recording monitor downloads per recipient per year is reimbursable without prior authorization.

(b) Requests for additional downloads require prior authorization and may be approved when determined to be medically necessary. The maximum number of downloads per recipient per year is four.

(c) Reimbursement for downloads is limited to one per calendar month.

(G) Pneumograms - home.

- (1) To qualify for reimbursement, a pneumogram must be ordered and evaluated by a licensed physician. The order must be based on the presence of appropriate symptoms or conditions as defined by accepted medical standards. Pneumograms used as screening tests without the presence of appropriate symptoms or conditions are not reimbursable.
- (2) The department's reimbursement for an outpatient pneumogram includes the rental of the monitor, the technician time involved, the physician's evaluation of the pneumogram, and a copy of any interpretive reports.
- (3) A maximum of one outpatient pneumogram per recipient per year is reimbursable without prior authorization. Requests for prior authorization of additional pneumograms may be approved when determined to be medically necessary.

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