

The Office of Vermont Health Access Medical Guidelines

Subject: Pediatric Scales

Last Review: 09/30/09

Revision 3:

Revision 2:

Revision 1: 09/01/09

Original Effective: 2004

Description of Service or Procedure

Coverage for pediatric scales is limited to:

- Weighing pediatric beneficiaries to monitor their weight for the regulation of medications, OR
- Weighing diapers to determine urinary output.

Disclaimer

Coverage is limited to that outlined in Medicaid Rule that pertains to the Beneficiary's Aid Category. Prior Authorization is only valid if the beneficiary is eligible for the applicable item or service on the date of service.

Medicaid Rule

7102.2 Prior Authorization Determination

7103 Medical Necessity

7505 Definition of DME: "...primarily and customarily used to serve a medical purpose; ...generally not useful to a person in the absence of illness, injury or disability..."

Coverage Position

A pediatric scale may be covered for those children:

- Who are VT Medicaid beneficiaries on the date of service, AND
- When this pediatric scale is prescribed by a licensed medical provider enrolled in the VT Medicaid program who is knowledgeable in the use of pediatric scales for monitoring purposes and who provides medical care to the beneficiary AND
- Who meet the OVHA clinical coverage guidelines.

Coverage Guidelines

Pediatric scales are covered for children who demonstrate the following:

- Have a medical condition that requires daily or more frequent monitoring of weight in order to regulate medications and the child does not require daily visits from a home health nurse who would be able to provide the monitoring, OR

- Are receiving breast milk when the mother must ingest medication that may adversely affect the infant, where the medication is known to enter breast milk and where it is imperative that the amount received by the infant is closely monitored, OR
- Have a medical condition that requires daily or more frequent monitoring of the weight of their diaper in order to measure urinary output (for example, hydronephrosis)

Note: Pediatric scales must be able to measure grams.

If the need is 3 months or less, rental is appropriate.

Authorization should be requested using HCPCS code E1399(RR) for this equipment because currently there is no specific code for this item.

Clinical guidelines for repeat service or procedure

The same criteria apply as for the initial use.

Type of service or procedure not covered (this list may not be all inclusive)

Bathroom scales are not a covered benefit (Medicaid Rule 7505.5).

References

The following references demonstrate the use of urine collected in diapers to determine urinary output, or use of infant weight to determine appropriate levels of medication.

Heckman M. et al. (2005). Assessing Cortisol Production in Preterm Infants: Do Not Dispose of the Nappies.

Pediatric Research, 57, Retrieved July 16, 2009 from

http://journals.lww.com/pedresearch/Fulltext/2005/03000/Assessing_Cortisol_Production_in_Preterm_Infants_.18.aspx#

Cattarelli D., Spandrio M., Gasparoni A., Bottino R., Offer C., & Chirico G. (2006). A Randomised, Double Blind, Placebo Controlled Trial of the Effect of Theophylline in Prevention of Vasomotor Nephropathy in Very Preterm Neonates with Respiratory Distress Syndrome. *Archives in Disease Fetal Neonatal Edition*, 91, Retrieved July 16, 2009 from

<http://www.archischild.com>

Heckman M, et al. (1995). Cortisol Production Rates in Preterm Infants in Relation to Growth and Illness: A Noninvasive Prospective Study Using Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry. *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*, 90, Retrieved July 14, 2009 from

<http://jcem.endojournals.org/cgi/reprint/90/10/5737>

Berle J.O., Steen V.M., Aamo T.O., Breilid H., Zahlsten K., Spigset O. (2004) Breastfeeding During Maternal Antidepressant Treatment with Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors: Infant Exposure, Clinical Symptoms, and Cytochrome P450 Genotypes. *Journal of Clinical Psychiatry*, 65, Retrieved July 14, 2009 from

<http://www.psychiatrist.com/>

Gardiner S.J. et al. (2003). Transfer of Olanzapine into Breast Milk, Calculation of Infant Drug Dose, and Effect on Breast Fed Infants. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 160, Retrieved July 14, 2009 from

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