

Gait Trainers

Gait Trainers are devices designed to support a patient with lower extremity or trunk weakness in an upright or standing position while walking. Gait trainers may be used independently or under the supervision of a caretaker.

Coverage and Payment Policy

Prior authorization is required for a gait trainer.

Requesting provider must submit the following documentation:

1. A letter of medical necessity and
2. A functional assessment conducted by a physical or occupational therapist that includes:
 - a. strength, range of motion, tone, sensation, balance, gait and ADL's
 - b. evidence that the recommended equipment can be accommodated and safely used in the beneficiary's home .
 - c. evidence that the beneficiary has shown improvement in mobility or function or has maintained mobility or function with the use of such equipment in an inpatient or outpatient setting.
 - d. documentation that the beneficiary is capable of independent and safe use of the gait trainer and/ or the caretaker has been trained to monitor safe use of the gait trainer.
 - e. a home therapy plan outlining the planned use of the requested gait trainer, documentation of the beneficiary's ability to follow such plan, and the availability of a caretaker to supervise the use of the gait trainer.
 - f. documentation that the beneficiary does not have sufficient access to equipment in an alternative setting.

Non Coverage

1. There is no expected improvement in mobility or maintenance of function.

Approved by:  Associate Medical Director

11/14

Jerry Fingerut, MD

Date: 24 November 2014

Reviewed: _____

Revised: _____