

List Serve Responses to Splinting Questions

Facility	<p>Do your therapists provide their outpatients with splints (e.g. Joe Cool, Benik), and other types of equipment (e.g. Passy Muir Speaking Values)? If so:</p> <p>a. Are the splints provided during the same visit as treatment? If so, will insurance reimburse for the splints provided?</p> <p>b. If the splints are not provided on the same day as their regular treatment how are they provided? Do you have them come back a different day? Do you have a “splint” or “equipment” clinic they attend?</p>	<p>If your therapists do not provide splints directly for their patients, how are the splinting/equipment needs addressed?</p> <p>a. Refer to a vendor?</p> <p>b. Vendor attends the OP therapy session?</p>
A	<p>No to fabricated splints. Yes to neoprene, Joe Cool and thermoplastic splints.</p> <p>a. When splints are fabricated they are fabricated during regular treatment session or additional session if needed. I have not heard that we are not getting paid for splints. We do not charge for a Joe Cool splint as it is a short term low cost intervention technique.</p> <p>b. We do not have a splint or equipment clinic. If they are fabricated during regular treatment it is due to having a separate splinting therapist and therefore, separate appointment.</p>	<p>a. Occasionally, families report that their insurance wants to go this route and we will provide them with vendor options.</p> <p>b. We typically do not have the vendor attend the OP therapy session</p>
B	<p>We do provide splints, typically as a part of the therapy visit and we bill for both the splints and therapists time via therapy procedures or activities or orthotics management. We use the generic misc. supply charge code</p>	

C	<p>a. Non custom splints are provided same day as appointment, custom splints are ordered and fit at a follow up visit. Our hospital has a separate division that can dispense/charge for DME such as splints. Families have to elect to have our facility be their provider of choice for DME vs. deciding to go to an outside vendor for these services, but if they choose to use our facility, insurance will pay for these items, but they are billed separately from any therapy related charges.</p> <p>b. A follow up visit is scheduled to fit custom splints.</p>	
D	<p>We only provide splints if they are classified as an orthotic and can be billed under an L-code. We prefer to only provide orthotics as a component of therapy, so typically, the appointments are a part of their therapy, but patients may have separate appointments if the time needed to assess/measure/order or fabricate/fit is going to take a significant amount of time. Insurance coverage varies. [Our] State Medicaid only reimburses orthotists for L-codes so we end up providing this as charity when we see it as an integral part of their therapy. We do not have specifics on other payer's reimbursement, but we would hear about it if it was a big impact on our overall reimbursement rate- this business is not large for us.</p>	<p>When we have patients seeking our services for orthotics only, we typically refer them to seek out an orthotist covered by their plan. Same for DME- they are referred to obtain from a DME provider as we are not licensed in this area. When we recommend general supplies, we refer them to go directly through the manufacture since misc. supplies are generally not a covered therapy service and we do not see ourselves as being in the supply business, but</p>

		rather the business of providing therapy.
E	Most of our patients' equipment needs are handled by vendors.	
F	We are fortunate to give these to patients "off the shelf" without a charge. We only bill for the time we spend fabricating splints and training on use, instructions for wearing time, etc. We do provide Benik, McKie, sometime Joe Cool, RCAI's.	
G	<p>Yes, we provide outpatients with splints and passy muir values.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Splints are provided during the same visit as treatment and insurance will reimburse for the splints provided. b. Splints are usually provided during regular appointment. If needed, we will have patient come back. We do not have a splint or equipment clinic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. We refer the more difficult orthotics to a vendor. b. Our vendors work closely with us and can be onsite, particularly for our serial casting clinic.
H	We are struggling with this.	