

## Medical Coverage Policy | CPAP/BiPAP Disposable Accessories Limits



**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 07/05/2011  
**POLICY LAST UPDATED:** 07/05/2011

### OVERVIEW

This policy documents that Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island (BCBSRI) follows the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) guidelines for limits for CPAP/BiPAP accessories that a member may receive and does not address medical necessity for the devices.

### PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

Not Applicable.

### POLICY STATEMENT

#### Blue CHip for Medicare and Commercial Products

**Disposable Accessories** associated with respiratory assist devices (CPAP/BiPAP) are included in the initial rental allowance and are not separately billable at the time of the initial rental. Accessories include, but are not limited to:

- instructions for use of device
- tubing
- carrying case
- power cord
- nasal ventilation shell
- disposable screw driver
- swivel whisper
- head/chin gear
- mask
- filter/inlet
- nasal pillow
- non-heated or heated humidifier
- humidifier water chamber
  
- Any accessories, including masks that require replacement during the **first 30 days** of the rental period are included in the first month's rental (not separately reimbursed).
- Replacement accessories **after the first 30 days** are subject to DME copays as determined by the member's DME benefit.
- BCBSRI follows the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) guidelines for limiting the usual maximum amount of accessories that are expected to be reasonable and necessary.
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If a member receives a CPAP (E0601) and the device is proven to be ineffective for the member (documented failure of the initial therapy), the member may be switched to a BiPAP (E0470). If re-evaluation occurs and indicates that a BiPAP is needed, continued coverage after the 3rd month will occur.

### MEDICAL CRITERIA

None.

## BACKGROUND

**Non-invasive positive-pressure ventilation (NPPV)** provides ventilation without the need for intubation or tracheostomy. NPPV is delivered via a nasal or face mask and may be given by a volume ventilator, pressure-controlled ventilator, bilevel positive airway pressure (BIPAP) device, or a continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) device. NPPV decreases the effort required to breathe, thereby improving ventilation while resting the respiratory musculature.

NPPV may be used in the treatment of sleep apnea, upper airway resistance syndrome, restrictive lung disorders including neuromuscular disorders, and respiratory disorders such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), pulmonary edema, and acute respiratory failure.

## COVERAGE

Benefits may vary between groups/contracts. Please refer to the appropriate benefit booklet, or subscriber agreement for the applicable durable medical equipment benefits/coverage.

## CODING

### BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercial:

The following codes are considered are covered:

#### Devices

E0601 Continuous airway pressure (CPAP) device

E0470 Respiratory assist device, bi-level pressure capability, without backup rate feature, used with noninvasive interface, e.g., nasal or facial mask (intermittent assist device with continuous positive airway pressure device)

E0471 Respiratory assist device, bi-level pressure capability, with back-up rate feature, used with noninvasive interface, e.g., nasal or facial mask (intermittent assist device with continuous positive airway pressure device)

#### Supplies

A4604 Tubing with integrated heating element for use with positive airway pressure device

A7027 Combination oral/nasal mask, used with continuous positive airway pressure device, each

A7028 Oral cushion for combination oral/nasal mask, replacement only, each

A7029 Nasal pillows for combination oral/nasal mask, replacement only, pair

A7030 Full face mask used with positive airway pressure device, each

A7031 Face mask interface, replacement for full face mask, each

A7032 Cushion for use on nasal mask interface, replacement only, each

A7033 Pillow for use on nasal cannula type interface, replacement only, pair

A7034 Nasal interface (mask or cannula type) used with positive airway pressure device, with or without head strap

A7035 Headgear used with positive airway pressure device

A7036 Chinstrap used with positive airway pressure device

A7037 Tubing used with positive airway pressure device

A7038 Filter, disposable, used with positive airway pressure device

A7039 Filter, non-disposable, used with positive airway pressure device

A7044 Oral interface used with positive airway pressure device, each

A7045 Exhalation port with or without swivel used with accessories for positive airway

devices, replacement only

A7046 Water chamber for humidifier, used with positive airway pressure device, replacement, each

E0561 Humidifier, non-heated, used with positive airway pressure device

E0562 Humidifier, heated, used with positive airway pressure device

## RELATED POLICIES

None

## PUBLISHED

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## REFERENCES

<http://www.medicarenhic.com/viewdoc.aspx?id=1664>

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