

## CHAPTER 7 SECTION 5.3

### ORTHOTICS

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#### I. DESCRIPTION

Orthotics is the field of knowledge relating to the making of an appliance or apparatus used to support, align, prevent, or correct deformities or to improve the function of movable parts of the body.

#### II. POLICY

Orthotic devices may be considered for TRICARE cost-sharing when determined to be medically necessary and when provided by an authorized TRICARE provider. Covered orthotic devices include, but are not limited to, the following:

A. Cervical orthoses (HCPCS Level II Codes L0100-L0200, L0700, L0710). The cervical orthoses treats cervical disease and injury by influencing the motion of the neck by assisting, resisting, blocking, or unloading part of the head weight.

B. Spinal orthotics (HCPCS Level II Codes L0100-L0200, L0970-L0984, L1010-L1120, L1210-L1290, K0112-K0117). These are usually prescribed for scoliosis, hyper- and hypokyphosis and hyper- and hypolordosis.

C. Upper limb orthotics (HCPCS Level II Codes L3650-L3670, L3700-L3740, L3800-L3805, L3810-L3890, L3900-L3954, L3960-L3974). These are used to substitute for absent motor power, to assist weak segments, to support segments which require immobilization, to provide traction, or for the attachment of devices. These are usually prescribed for the wrist, thumb, fingers, shoulder and elbow.

D. Cranioplasty banding treatment for a diagnosed craniofacial anomaly.

#### III. EXCLUSIONS

The following types of orthoses are excluded from TRICARE coverage:

A. Orthopedic shoes (except for orthopedic shoes which are an integral part of a brace (see also [Chapter 7, Section 5.1](#)).

B. Arch supports.

C. Shoe inserts.

D. Other supportive devices of the feet, such as, wedges, specialized fillers, heels straps, pads, shanks, etc.

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