

# Bath and Toilet Equipment

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## Overview

Bath and toilet equipment is used to provide support and safety to individuals during hygiene tasks.

## Eligible Providers

The following Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) enrolled providers may provide bath and toilet equipment:

- Federally qualified health centers
- Home health agencies
- Hospitals
- Indian Health Services
- Medical suppliers
- Pharmacies
- Rural health clinics

## Third Party Liability (TPL) and Medicare

Providers must meet any provider criteria, including accreditation, for third-party insurance or for Medicare to assist members for whom MHCP is not the primary payer.

MHCP quantity limits and thresholds apply to all members unless only Medicare coinsurance or deductible is requested.

## Eligible Members

Bath and toilet equipment is covered for eligible MHCP members who meet medical necessity criteria. Bath and toilet equipment is included in the nursing facility per diem, and is not separately reimbursable. Most bath and toilet equipment is included in the long-term care facility (LTC) and intermediate care facility for people with developmental disabilities (ICF/DD) per diem. Seat lift mechanisms and rehab shower or toileting systems may be covered outside the ICF/DD and LTC per diem for members who meet medical necessity criteria.

## Covered Services

### Codes:

- E0163-E0168 (Commodes)
- E0170-E0172 (Seat lift for commode/toilet)
- E0240 (Bath/shower chair)
- E0244 (Raised toilet seat)

- E0245 (Tub stool/bench)
- E0247-E0248 (Transfer benches)
- E0625 (Bath lift)

## **Commodes**

Commodes are covered without authorization for members who are unable to safely and promptly access the toilet in the bathroom in their homes due to a medical condition. MHCP does not require that members are confined to their beds or to their rooms

### **Toilet Seat Lift Mechanism or Commode Chair with Integrated Seat Lift Mechanism**

Commode chairs with nonelectric seat lift mechanisms are covered without authorization for members who meet criteria for a commode, but are unable to safely raise or lower themselves to use the commode.

Commode chairs with integrated electric seat lift mechanisms or seat lift mechanisms to be placed over the toilet are covered with authorization. Documentation must establish all of the following:

- The member is unable to safely and promptly access the toilet in the bathroom in the home because of a medical condition
- The member is unable to safely raise or lower themselves to use the toilet or commode
- A trial has shown that the seat lift mechanism will allow the member to independently use the toilet or commode, and that the item fits in the member's home
- Other less costly ways to meet the member's needs (raised toilet seat, non-electric seat lift mechanism) have been considered
- The member has acknowledged that the increased independence offered by the seat lift mechanism may affect future requests for PCA or home care services
- Requests for authorization must address the member's ability to transfer onto or off of other furniture, caregiver availability to assist with transfers and transfer method used for toileting in the community

### **Bath or Shower Chairs, Tub Stools or Benches**

Bath or shower chairs or tub stools or benches are covered without authorization for members who are unable to safely use the bathtub or shower in their homes.

### **Raised Toilet Seats**

Raised toilet seats are covered without authorization for members who are unable to safely raise or lower themselves to use a standard-height toilet.

### **Transfer Benches**

Transfer benches are covered for members who are unable to safely transfer to the toilet, bath, or shower chair without the use of the transfer bench. Authorization is required if the submitted charge is more than \$400. Documentation must establish that the requested item is the least costly appropriate way to meet the member's medical needs. A transfer bench is considered a duplication of equipment if the member has a patient lift that can be used in the bathroom unless the transfer bench allows the member to transfer without assistance.

### **Rehab Shower and Toileting Systems**

Rehab shower and toileting systems are covered for members who are unable to safely and promptly access the toilet or shower in the bathroom of their homes due to a medical condition, and who require significantly more positioning assistance than is available from a commode or shower chair. Providers should use the bath or shower chair HCPCS code that most appropriately describes the item when the equipment will be used in the shower or bath. E1399 may be used when the equipment will not be used for bath or shower. Authorization requests must include U3 when requesting payment above the fee schedule rate. Review the information under Billing in this MHCP Provider Manual section for how to bill with U3 modifier. Documentation must establish all of the following:

- The member is unable to safely and promptly access the toilet or shower in the bathroom in the home because of a medical condition
- The specific medical conditions that makes a commode or shower chair unsafe, and how the requested item will address the member's medical conditions
- The amount of time the member will use the equipment daily
- The member's living arrangement and caregiver status
- The requested equipment is appropriate to the member's height and weight
- A trial has shown that the requested equipment will fit in all necessary areas of the member's home
- Details about the member's current equipment or how the member is currently bathing, and specific and detailed information about why it is no longer meeting the member's needs or cannot be repaired
- Other related equipment in use (mobility device, patient lift, or similar)
- Other less-costly ways to meet the member's needs have been considered and why they will not meet the member's needs. Include make and model of multiple less-costly items considered and rejected
- Evaluation by a physical therapist or occupational therapist or other professional with experience evaluating bath and toilet equipment
- When tilt-in-space shower commode chairs or custom-molded seating is requested, additional documentation is required to support these options. The amount of time the member uses the equipment daily will be considered when evaluating the need for these options

### **Bath Lift Equipment**

Bath chairs that lower the member into the bathtub are covered for members who are unable to safely access the bathtub in their home due to a medical condition. Providers should use the bath lift HCPCS code that most appropriately describes the item, not a miscellaneous code. Prior authorization is always required. Documentation must establish all of the following:

- The member is unable to safely access the bathtub in the home due to a medical condition
- The specific medical conditions that requires the member to be lowered into the bathtub to soak in the water rather than using a bath or shower chair for a shower
- The member's living arrangement and caregiver status
- The requested equipment is appropriate to the member's height and weight
- A trial has shown that the requested equipment will fit in the member's bathtub and can safely meet all of the member's bathing needs
- Details about the member's current equipment, and why it is no longer meeting the member's needs
- Other related equipment in use (mobility device, patient lift, or similar). Bath lift equipment may be considered a duplication of equipment if the member has a member lift that can be used in the bathroom
- Other less-costly ways to meet the member's needs that have been considered and why they will not meet the member's needs. Include details including make and model of multiple less-costly items considered and rejected
- Evaluation by a physical therapist or an occupational therapist, or another professional with experience evaluating bath and toilet equipment

### **Noncovered Services**

- Bathtub wall rails
- Grab bars
- Hand-held shower units
- Modifications to bathrooms
- "Potty" chairs or seats for toilet training children

### **Authorization**

Authorization is required for the following:

- When requesting payment for more than the fee schedule rate for rehab shower or toileting systems
- Commodes with electric seat lift mechanisms
- Seat lift mechanisms to be used with a toilet
- Bathtub lifts
- Transfer benches
- Repairs where the submitted charge including parts and labor exceeds \$400

When authorization is required, list all requested parts or accessories on the authorization request. If approved, the approved rate will include all requested and approved parts or accessories.

Submit authorizations and required documentation to the authorization medical review agent. All authorization requests must include either an invoice or documentation of Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) as pricing documentation.

## **Billing**

- Use MN-ITS 837P Professional. Refer to the MN-ITS User Guide [Billing for Durable Medical Equipment, Medical Supplies, Prosthetics and Orthotics, and Augmentative Devices](#) for billing instructions.
- Bill rehab shower and toileting systems using the most appropriate HCPCS code and modifiers NU or RR and modifier U3 when appropriate.
  - If the member has Third Party Liability (TPL) that does not cover custom shower chairs, bill the custom shower chair with the U3 modifier, without Coordination of Benefits (COB) information, and include an attachment with TPL information. Also add a cover sheet stating "policy needs to review as this is a specialty item that is not covered by the primary payer."
- Bill bath lift equipment using the appropriate bath lift HCPCS code, and modifiers NU or RR and modifier U3 when appropriate. Do not use E1399.
- Bill repairs using the HCPCS code of the item being repaired and modifier RB. The submitted charge must include all materials. Labor for repairs may be billed on a separate line.
- The HCPCS code and modifiers must match the authorization.
- It is not necessary to submit a claim to Medicare for denial if authorization was approved for purchase or repair of bath or toilet equipment that Medicare is known not to cover. If a claim for approved equipment is denied because it was not submitted to Medicare, contact the [MHCP Provider Resource Center](#) to request a work order for review and possible payment.

## **Legal References**

[Minnesota Statutes 256B.0625](#), subdivision 31

[Minnesota Rules 9505.0310](#) (Medical Supplies and Equipment)

[Minnesota Rules 9505.0210](#) (Covered Services; General Requirements)