

Wheelchair Assessments

Power wheelchair / Customized Seating evaluations:

Therapist must have 5 hours of training or 2 years experience in seating and positioning in order to complete the wheelchair screen and evaluations.

For Short Term Residents:

Facility/Therapist Determines Patient needs a wheelchair assessment.

Facility to contact vendor (Alden contacts NuMotion) for a referral list of WC clinics in the area. The patient can get the eval at one of the clinics once discharged to home.

For SNF Long Term Residents:

Wheelchairs for long term residents, are not covered by most insurance unless customizing is required. Therefore, more often than not, Facility is responsible for the wheelchair for a resident if it is not customized.

Facility/ RN or Therapy deems pt in need of a Custom Wheelchair Assessment & notifies therapy supervisor of the need.

*Momentum sites requires a wheelchair clinic at admit & quarterly for all residents to assess for wc needs

Therapy supervisor gives referral to Therapist trained in WC assessment. If no one at the facility has been trained, therapy supervisor contacts CPT office. They have the list of therapists that have been trained and will help coordinate the visit.

Therapist screens and makes recommendations for wheelchair needs

*Alden sites: Therapist completes ***“LTC Screen /Request for Custom Manual/Motorized Wheelchair Eval Form”***

*Momentum Sites: Therapist completes the ***“Wheelchair Clinic Screen Form”***

Therapy issues the recommendations (either by forms above or verbally) to facility representative.

Facility Rep contacts vendor** sending them any forms (listed above), Patient face sheet, & MD order to initiate the w/c request.

**Alden sends to Nigel Gabriel at Prism: purchasing04@prismhc.com and includes therapy department on the email. Nigel then forwards the email to NuMotion (cc. therapy and nursing on the email) and requests a wheelchair assessment or further discussion regarding the wheelchair need.

Vendor then determines if they have a payer source or not.

If they do not have a payer source, Vendor must contact the facility / coordinate with facility if the eval is to move forward or not.

If they do have a payer source, Vendor is to email all at the facility (nursing and therapy) to coordinate the visit for the formal wheelchair eval ensuring time and date will work for the patient and therapist's schedules.

The Evaluation Process:

If the eval is to occur, it is a billable service. The code for a WC eval is 97542.

The Customized wc evaluation form will be provided by the wc vendor. However, in order to bill the pt you will also have to complete an eval in RO. However, we want to make it as easy as possible, so you do not spend a lot of time on the RO eval.

Entering Eval into RO for billing: You will start an evaluation for the patient as normal. If it is determined no follow up is needed with therapy, then can check eval only. If follow up visits are needed, then you will need to do LTG:

LTG suggestion: Complete the molded seating and positioning sessions to properly fit patient in individualized wheelchair thus allowing patient to have mobility access within chosen living environment.

In the mandatory sections of the eval form, simply type: "*see handwritten wheel chair evaluation form*"

This is designed to minimize the RO documentation that is needed for billing and to avoid duplication of work since the handwritten eval has to be done and it has to have input from therapy, WC company and MD. In addition, scan the handwritten eval and attach to pt's case manager

Driving Safety Assessment:

If there is a request for a driving assessment, utilize the Power wheelchair driving Eval. This can also be billed under the wc code of 97542.

If the pt is being picked up for just the driving assessment, complete the driving eval and bill under 97542. Use the suggestions under **Entering Eval into RO for billing**

If the pt is being picked up for other issues in addition to the wheelchair driving assessment, you should complete a standard eval, include wheelchair management training in the POC, and when the driving assessment is complete, charge the entire time under the 97542 code.