

Reimbursement Policy	
Subject: Prosthetic and Orthotic Devices	
Policy Number: G-06084	Policy Section: Prosthetics and Orthotics
Last Approval Date: 05/16/2022	Effective Date: 05/16/2022

**** Visit our provider website for the most current version of our reimbursement policies. If you are using a printed version of this policy, please verify the information by going to <https://providers.anthem.com/nv>. ****

Disclaimer

These policies serve as a guide to assist you in accurate claim submissions and to outline the basis for reimbursement by Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Healthcare Solutions (Anthem). The determination that a service, procedure, item, etc. is covered under a member’s benefit plan is not a determination that you will be reimbursed. Services must meet authorization and medical necessity guidelines appropriate to the procedure and diagnosis as well as to the member’s state of residence. You must follow proper billing and submission guidelines. You are required to use industry standard, compliant codes on all claim submissions. Services should be billed with CPT® codes, HCPCS codes, and/or revenue codes. The codes denote the services and/or procedures performed. The billed codes are required to be fully supported in the medical record and/or office notes. Unless otherwise noted within the policy, our policies apply to both participating and nonparticipating providers and facilities.

If appropriate coding/billing guidelines or current reimbursement policies are not followed, Anthem may:

- Reject or deny the claim.
- Recover and/or recoup claim payment.

Anthem reimbursement policies are developed based on nationally accepted industry standards and coding principles. These policies may be superseded by mandates in provider, state, federal, or CMS contracts and/or requirements. System logic or setup may prevent the loading of policies into the claims platforms in the same manner as described; however, Anthem strives to minimize these variations.

Anthem reserves the right to review and revise our policies periodically when necessary. When there is an update, we will publish the most current policy to our provider website.

Policy

Anthem allows reimbursement of prosthetic and orthotic devices when provided as part of a physician’s services or ordered by a physician or other qualified healthcare provider, and used in accepted medical practice unless provider, state, federal, or CMS contracts and/or requirements indicate otherwise.

<https://providers.anthem.com/nv>

Reimbursement is based on the applicable fee schedule or contracted/negotiated rate for the prosthetic or orthotic device dispensed. The design, materials, measurements, fabrications, testing, fitting, and training in the use of the device are included in the reimbursement of the device and are not separately reimbursable expenses.

Reimbursement is allowed for repair of prosthetic and orthotic devices:

- When necessary to make the device serviceable.
- When the device is no longer covered under the supplier's or manufacturer's warranty.
- Up to the estimated expense of replacement of the device.

Reimbursement is allowed for replacement of prosthetic and orthotic devices due to:

- Change in the patient's condition.
- Substantial change in patient's growth and/or weight.
- Permanent and/or accidental damage.
- Irreparable wear in consideration of the reasonable useful lifetime of the device of not less than five years based on when the equipment is delivered to the member.

Nonreimbursable

Anthem does not allow reimbursement for prosthetics and orthotics under the following conditions:

- Provision of a device that exceeds the benefit limit unless authorized through medical necessity.
- Enhancements or upgrades of a device for the convenience of the member or caregiver.
- The aesthetic appearance of a device for the preference of the member or caregiver.
- A device considered experimental or investigational.
- Repair or replacement of a device as a result of abuse or neglect.
- Repair or replacement of a device during the warranty period.
- Over-the-counter orthotic devices.

Dental prosthetics are considered for reimbursement through delegated agreements between applicable company health plans and contracted dental vendors.

In instances of theft, a police report is required for consideration of replacements.

Related Coding

Standard Correct Coding applies

Policy History

05/16/2022	Biennial review approved: policy template updated
05/27/2020	Biennial review approved: policy language updated
04/20/2018	Biennial review approved: policy template updated
02/01/2018	Policy template updated
07/14/2016	Biennial review approved: policy template updated
11/04/2015	Review approved: History section/policy template updated
07/30/2014	Biennial review approved: policy language updated
09/24/2012	Biennial review approved: policy template updated
11/16/2010	Policy updated: Background section/policy template updated

09/27/2010	Biennial review approved: examples removed: Background and Definitions sections updated: policy template updated
02/01/2009	Initial policy approval and effective

References and Research Materials

<p>This policy has been developed through consideration of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS • State Medicaid • State contracts
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Definitions

Prosthetic device	<p>An artificial structural and functional replacement of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A limb/appendage or internal organ • All or part of the function of a permanently inoperative or malfunctioning internal body organ
Orthotic device	<p>A brace with rigid metal or plastic stays applied to the body:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For support or immobilization of a body part. • To correct or prevent deformity. • To assist or restore function.
General Reimbursement Policy Definitions	

Related Policies and Materials

Reimbursement of Items under Warranty
Scope of Practice