

Title 23: Division of Medicaid

Part 209: Durable Medical Equipment, Medical Appliances and Medical Supplies

Part 209 Chapter 1: Durable Medical Equipment and Medical Appliances

Rule 1.33: Nebulizer

- A. Medicaid defines a nebulizer as an apparatus for producing a fine spray or mist primarily for use in administering drugs by inhalation.
 - 1. This may be accomplished by rapidly passing air through a liquid or by vibrating a liquid at a high frequency so that the particles produced are extremely small.
 - 2. Medicaid expects that the practitioner will have considered the use of a metered dose inhaler with and without a reservoir or spacer device, if age appropriate, and has determined that, for medical reasons, it was not sufficient for the administration of needed inhalation drugs.

- B. Medicaid covers nebulizers for all beneficiaries for rental up to purchase amount, or purchase when indicated and ordered by a physician as follows:
 - 1. A nebulizer is covered for rental only when a beneficiary has an acute condition, such as pneumonia or acute bronchitis, which is expected to resolve in a short time.
 - 2. A nebulizer is covered for purchase when a beneficiary has a chronic condition that is not expected to resolve in a short time or is expected to recur frequently. Medical conditions that may be chronic or long term, but are not limited to:
 - a) Asthma,
 - b) Bronchopulmonary dysplasia,
 - c) Chronic bronchitis,
 - d) Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease,
 - e) Congenital heart anomaly,
 - f) Cystic fibrosis,
 - g) Diaphragmatic hernia, and
 - h) Respiratory distress syndrome.

Source: 42 U.S.C. § 1395m; Miss. Code Ann. §§ 43-13-117(17); 43-13-121.

History: Revised eff. 06/01/2021, Revised eff. 09/01/2018.

Rule 1.38: Spacer/Aerosol-Holding Chamber

- A. Medicaid defines a spacer/aerosol-holding chamber as a cylinder shaped device usually four (4) to eight (8) inches long with a one (1) way valve.
 - 1. The device is attached to a metered dose inhaler (MDI).
 - 2. Use of the spacer/aerosol-holding chamber slows the delivery of medication from the pressurized MDI and decreases the amount of medication deposited in the mouth and throat.

- B. Medicaid covers spacer/aerosol-holding chambers for all beneficiaries for purchase when ordered by a physician and all the following criteria is met:
 - 1. The beneficiary is unable to coordinate spraying the metered dose inhaler and inhaling.
 - 2. The beneficiary has a medical diagnosis of asthma, chronic bronchitis or emphysema.
 - 3. The beneficiary must have a metered dose inhaler.

Source: 42 U.S.C. § 1395m; Miss. Code Ann. §§ 43-13-117(17), 43-13-121.

History: Revised eff. 06/01/2021, Revised eff. 09/01/2018.