POSITIVE AIRWAY PRESSURE DEVICE (PAP)

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For Positive Airway Pressure or BiPAP **without** backup – the only diagnosis that is covered is obstructive sleep apnea (OSA), G47.33

For initial coverage, all three of the following have been met:

1. Evidence of a face-to-face evaluation by the treating practitioner prior to the sleep test to assess the patient for OSA.
- **A.** Face-to-face must include BMI or height and weight, neck circumference and symptoms suspecting OSA
- **B.** Certain payors require as many as four (4) symptoms:
  - **i.** Hypertension, witnessed nocturnal motor activity, fatigue, gasping/choking, habitual snoring, irritability/moodiness, morning headaches, daytime sleepiness/napping, drowsy driving or previous diagnosis of OSA

2. Sleep test that meets the following:
- **A.** The AHI or RDI is greater than or equal to 15 events per hour with minimum of 30 events, **OR**
- **B.** The AHI or RDI is greater than or equal to 5 and less than 14 events per hour with a minimum of 10 events and documentation of:
  - **i.** Excessive daytime sleepiness, impaired cognition, mood disorders, isnomnia **OR**
  - **ii.** Hypertension, ischemic heart disease or history of stroke

3. The patient and/or caregiver has received instruction from the supplier on the proper use and care of the equipment.

Continued coverage beyond the first three months:

Between 31 and 91 days of therapy, the following must occur:

1. Face-to-face clinical re-evaluation with treating practitioner documenting that symptoms of OSA are improved and the patient is benefiting from therapy.

2. Objective evidence of adherence to therapy, reviewed by the treating practitioner. Adherence to therapy is using the PAP at a minimum of 4 hours per night on 70 percent of nights during a consecutive 30-day period anytime during the trial period.

If patient fails the initial three-month trial period, then they need to re-qualify for a PAP device and then follow the initial coverage criteria.

If PAP device is tried and found ineffective, whether it's during the facility testing or in home study, substitution of a BiPAP without backup may occur according to the following:

- If more than 30 days remaining in trial period, the length of the trial period does not change.
- If less than 30 days remaining in trial period, the length of the trial the clinical re-evaluation and adherence to therapy must occur before the 120th day.
- If PAP device was used more than 3 months, then switched, the clinical re-evaluation must occur between the 31st-91st day following the initiation of the BiPAP without backup.

Concurrent use of oxygen with PAP therapy
If a patient requires simultaneous use of home oxygen therapy and a PAP device, documentation by the treating practitioner in the medical record must clearly demonstrate that the requirements for coverage outlined in both the PAP and Oxygen policy have been met. Refer to the oxygen section for coverage criteria of home oxygen therapy.