

HCPCS Public Meeting Agenda Item #8
June 7, 2011

Attachment# 11.108

Topic/Issue:

Request to establish a new addition code to add to existing base codes for all prosthetic feet. Applicant's suggested language: "Dynamically accommodates additional load carriage exceeding 20% of user's body weight".

Background/Discussion:

According to the requester, the Thrive™ prosthetic foot accommodates increased loads when the user is lifting or carrying heavy objects. It is clinically indicated for individuals who frequently are lifting or carrying heavy objects including, but not limited to automotive mechanics, carpenters, child care providers, construction workers, delivery workers, factory workers, farmers, firefighters, maintenance workers, plumbers, police officers, military personnel, and/or warehouse workers. Thrive™ has two keels, a primary lower keel and a secondary upper keel. The primary lower keel provides function for the amputee's activities of daily living. The secondary upper keel is engaged in addition to the primary lower keel when the amputee lifts or carries a heavy object. Thrive™ also has a carbon fiber heel lever and urethane heel bumper. It is available in various sizes (22-30 cm), in nine stiffness categories, and is available for amputees weighing up to 365 pounds. The Thrive™ dynamically adjusts to the amputee's activity with his/her input and is provided as a definitive component with the amputee's prosthesis. A prosthetic foot that dynamically accommodates increased loading will provide the user with increased function for activities of daily living. It may also reduce the need for a secondary prosthetic foot. According to the requester, existing codes do not describe the function of a prosthetic foot which dynamically accommodates additional load carriage.

CMS HCPCS Preliminary Decision:

Existing code L5981 "ALL LOWER EXTREMITY PROSTHESIS, FLEX-WALK SYSTEM OR EQUAL" adequately describes this dual keel technology without add-on codes. Deflection of the keel does not equate to vertical shock compression, therefore existing code L5987 "ALL LOWER EXTREMITY PROSTHESIS, SHANK FOOT SYSTEM WITH VERTICAL LOADING PYLON" for vertical shock reduction does not apply.

Medicare Payment:

The payment rules associated with the existing L5981 code apply to this product if covered.
Pricing = 38