

FACE TO FACE EXAMINATION/CHART NOTES

Section 1833(e) Medicare requires Doctor's Chart Notes in narrative form. The treating physician is required to provide a copy of the records of this Face-to-Face Examination.

The primary reason for a Power Mobility Device (PMD – includes both Electric Wheelchairs and Electric Scooters) is to compensate a patient for their mobility limitations within their home and their ability to perform activities of daily living **including toileting, grooming, bathing, dressing and eating.**

For a Power Mobility Device, Medicare no longer requires that a patient cannot walk, but only to have limitations in the performance of daily activities in the home, safely and in a reasonable period.¹

The patient's medical records must support the prescription for a Power Mobility Device. Explain Health, Physical and Pain Conditions in narrative form how the patient's mobility limitations interfere with the performance of activities of daily living.

Also, Medicare requires the physician to specifically address, **both 1. & 2.** in your notes:

(requirement!!) 1. Why can't a cane or walker sufficiently and safely meet the patient's walking needs in a reasonable time frame in the Home. Please explain Health, Physical and Pain Conditions why a cane or walker is not adequate enough.

(requirement!!) 2. Why can't a manual wheelchair meet this patient's mobility need in the home? Explain Health, Physical and Pain Condition why a manual wheelchair is not adequate enough. (Limitations or insufficient upper extremity function to self-propel, endurance, range of motion, coordination, and absence or deformity are relevant.)

If the patient is getting an Electric Wheelchair (as opposed to an Electric Scooter or POV Power Operated Vehicles), Medicare requires the physician to specifically state: **3.** **(requirement!!) Why can't a scooter meet the patient's mobility needs in the home? . The patient must be able to safely transfer to and from the POV, and operate the tiller steering system, and maintain postural stability and position while operating the POV in the home.) Explain Health, Physical and Mental Conditions why an electric scooter is not adequate enough.**

The report should accompany supporting documentation, including the history, physical examination, diagnostic tests, summary of findings, diagnoses, and treatment plans. It may also include information from other examinations, as well as relevant reports from other examinations. Please include any History (How long has the condition been present; Clinical progression; Interventions that have been tried and the results; Past use of walker, manual wheelchair, POV, or power wheelchair and the results); Physical Exam (Weight, Impairment of strength, range of motion, sensation or coordination of arms and legs, Presence of abnormal tone or deformity Of arms, legs, or trunk; Neck trunk, and pelvic posture and flexibility; Sitting and Standing balance; Functional assessment-any problems with performing the following activities including the need to use a cane, walker, or the assistance of another person; Transferring between a bed, chair, and PMD; Walking around their home-to bathroom, Kitchen, living room, etc-provide information on distance walked, speed and balance.

¹ As a prescribing physician of a PMD, you are entitled to a new add-on payment for conducting the face-to-face examination, the new add-on code is G0372.

