

Doctor Order Form

Suction Pumps & Tracheostomy Supplies
Instructions: Please fill in ALL sections and mail or fax along with a copy
of the patient's health benefit card to BLN. If you have any changes, please cross out; write in correction, sign, and date.

185 Oser Ave. Hauppauge, NY 11788

Call: 1.800.854.5729 Fax: 1.877.262.2183

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Instructions

185 Oser Ave. Hauppauge, NY 11788 Phone: 1.800.854.5729 Fax: 1.877.262.2183

www.BetterLivingNow.com

1) Patient

a) Please complete the Member section of the order form on the reverse side indicating the insurance you have that provides coverage for your Suction Pump Supplies and Tracheostomy Supplies.

2) Doctor

- a) Please complete the patient information and doctor information sections.
- b) Please indicate the products you want supplied to the patient, with directions for use and quantity required;
- c) Please sign and date on the spaces provided.

3) Some Medicare Coverage Rules that should be noted:

- Medicare reimbursement limits Suction Pump Supplies and Tracheostomy Supplies to a one (1) month supply at one time.
- b) If treatment regimen exceeds the quantity limitations noted below, then Medicare requires a Letter of Medical Necessity signed by the physician on his or her letterhead.
- c) If you fax this document, Medicare/insurance requirements are that you maintain the signed original in the patient's medical record for post-payment review audit purposes.

4) Medicare Guidelines for Suction Pump Supplies and Tracheostomy Supplies

- a) Tracheostomy Guidelines
 - i) A tracheostomy care kit is covered for a patient following an open surgical tracheostomy which has been open or is expected to remain open for at least three months.
 - ii) A tracheostomy care or cleaning starter kit (A4625) is covered following an open surgical tracheostomy. Beginning two weeks post-operatively, code A4625 is no longer medically necessary and, if that code is billed, payment is based on the least costly alternative, code A4629.
 - iii) One tracheostomy care kit (A4625, A4629) per day is considered necessary for routine care of a tracheostomy. Claims for additional kits for non-routine tracheostomy care must be accompanied by substantiating documentation.
- b) Suction Pump Guidelines
 - i) Use of a home model respiratory suction pump (E0600) is covered for patients who have difficulty raising and clearing secretions secondary to:
 - (1) Cancer or surgery of the throat or mouth
 - (2) Dysfunction of the swallowing muscles
 - (3) Unconsciousness or obtunded state
 - (4) Tracheostomy (ICD-9 V44.0 or V55.0)
 - ii) When a respiratory suction pump (E0600) is covered, tracheal suction catheters (A4624) are separately payable supplies. In most cases, in the home setting, sterile catheters are medically necessary only for tracheostomy suctioning. Three suction catheters per day are covered for medically necessary tracheostomy suctioning, unless additional documentation is provided. When a tracheal suction catheter is used in the oropharynx, which is not sterile, the catheter can be reused if properly cleansed and/or disinfected. In this situation, the medical necessity for more than three catheters (A4624) per week would require additional documentation.
 - iii) Sterile saline solution (A4216, A4217) is covered and separately payable when used to clear a suction catheter after tracheostomy suctioning. It is not usually medically necessary for oropharyngeal suctioning. Saline used for tracheal lavage is a non-covered supply.
 - iv) Tracheal suction catheters (A4624) and sterile saline used for suctioning (A4216, A4217) are considered supplies for durable medical equipment. Therefore, when supplied to beneficiaries in nursing facilities, Place of Service Codes 31 and 32, they will be denied as non-covered.
 - v) Supplies (A4628) are covered and are separately payable when they are medically necessary and used with a medically necessary (E0600) in a covered setting.
 - vi) When an E0600 is used for tracheal suctioning, other supplies (e.g., cups, basins, gloves, solutions, etc.) are included in the tracheal care kit code, A4625 (refer to the Tracheostomy Care Supplies policy for details). When an E0600 is used for oropharyngeal suctioning, these other supplies are not medically necessary.